

## Heseltine scents victory over Westland rescue

Mr Michael Heseltine and his supporters are increasingly confident of victory in the conflict over a rescue package for Westland helicopters

Mr Leon Brittan, who faces Cabinet isolation on the issue, has denied saying a European solution was preferable, but says he encouraged Mr Heseltine to seek one

Sir John Cockney, the Westland chairman, said the European bid to be considered today "marginally improved all the terms"

The £73.1 million bid put together by a consortium of European aircraft companies is seen as a better financial package than the Sikorsky-Fiat proposals

By Philip Webster and Judith Huntley

Mr Leon Brittan, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was looking increasingly isolated yesterday in the Cabinet battle over the future of Westland helicopters.

The Westland board meets today to examine the £73.1 million rescue package put forward by a consortium of European aircraft companies and MPs and ministers who have backed the efforts of Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, to find a European solution are growing more confident that he will win the day.

Sir John Cockney, Westland's chairman, who only seven days ago described Mr Heseltine's intervention to oppose the rival Sikorsky-Fiat package as "astonishing and distasteful", said yesterday that, although a lot of matters required clarification, the European bid "marginally improved all the terms".

Although Mr Brittan denied yesterday that in a minute sent to the Prime Minister on October 4 he had said a European deal was preferable, it was stated authoritatively last night that the minute showed Mr Brittan and his department had clear reservations about the Sikorsky-Fiat offer.

It also expressed the department's view that the company should do all it could to seek a European solution.

Mr Brittan said in a BBC radio interview that to say - as *The Observer* reported yesterday - that he had expressed a preference for a European solution was not true and "a bit of Christmas entertainment".

He also said in the interview that at a meeting in his room in the industry department he had

"positively encouraged" Mr Heseltine to see if there was a European solution, a phrase which, according to a Heseltine supporter, would have made the defence secretary "choke on his lunch" had he heard it.

It was said yesterday that the industry department had adopted a "hands off" approach and left it to Westland to put a European effort together. When that failed to bear fruit, the department was ready to accept the Westland view that the Sikorsky deal was the only viable option. It was at that time, at the meeting to which Mr Brittan referred in his interview, that Mr Heseltine intervened to say that he was going to try to find a European solution. "The idea that Mr Brittan was 'encouraging' Mr Heseltine is ludicrous," it was said.

Sir John described the European deal as a modification of earlier proposals. There were points to clear up. He said the European deal talked about "a commitment" and not a guarantee to provide a workload. He did not think a French threat to withdraw work would go down well with the workforce. "I personally dislike bullying, whether it is ministerial or foreign," he said.

Mr Heseltine, while observing the Prime Minister's order not to continue the public row over favoured options, nevertheless made clear yesterday that there was another serious obstacle in the way of the Sikorsky bid.

He said in a BBC radio interview that there was no money in the defence budget to buy Sikorsky Black Hawk

helicopters, an integral part of the American-led bid.

Using the Prime Minister's argument stated on Thursday that defence procurement was a matter for the whole Government, Mr Heseltine pointed out that a committee of officials from all departments had advised against going ahead with a new tactical transport helicopter. Black Hawk had been one of the contenders.

Mr Heseltine said that any decision taken now to buy Black Hawks would mean reversing that recommendation and removing items of higher immediate priority from the defence budget to pay for them. "The Ministry of Defence cannot do that," he said.

The disclosure yesterday that Libya has a 13 per cent stake in Fiat, with two members on the Fiat board, seems certain to boost the chances of the European offer and to make it more popular with Conservative MPs.

Fiat, with MBB of West Germany and Rolls Royce, is also in the consortium building engines for the RAF Tornado aircraft. Defence sources argued that that was not the same as giving them a stake in the control of a British industry, as would be the case if they won the Westland deal.

At its meeting today the Westland board will discuss the European bid. A consortium, made up of GEC, Britain's largest industrial company, British Aerospace, Aerospatiale of France, Agusta of Italy and MBB of West Germany, is offering to put £73.1 million into Westland in return for 21 per cent of the company.

Two-year slide, page 2



Mrs Winnie Mandela with two of her grandchildren in Soweto yesterday before being arrested again.

## Teachers' lock-out proposal ridiculed

By Lucy Hodges

Education Correspondent

A suggestion that the Prime Minister wants striking teachers to be locked out of schools without pay has been condemned by all sides in the 10-month dispute.

The Prime Minister was reported in a Sunday newspaper to have "ordered" local education authorities to take this tough new line.

"This is lunatic," Mrs Nicky Harrison, leader of the Labour-dominated employers, said yesterday. "There is no way we will play it according to that book."

Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters' Union of Women Teachers, said: "This is a stupid and entirely ill-considered initiative."

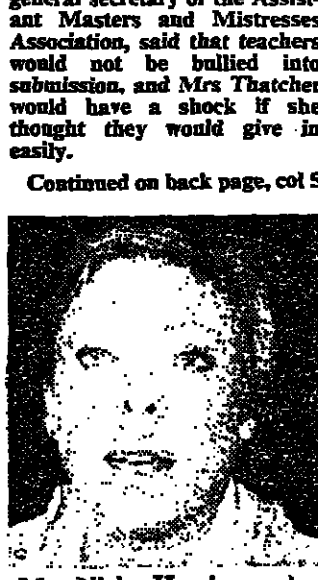
Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said that no local authority would want to lock out teachers, given that they were not prepared to take disruptive teachers to court when asked to by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science. "Such a move would simply increase our action in retaliation at such a provocative step."

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said that the Government could not expect local authorities to lock out teachers, given the vague and almost non-existent teachers' contract.

"I cannot believe many local education authorities would stick their necks out to do the Government's dirty work for them by escalating the dispute to the level that the Prime Minister seems to be suggesting," he said.

Mr Peter Smith, deputy general secretary of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, said that teachers would not be bullied into submission, and Mrs Thatcher would have a shock if she thought they would give in easily.

Continued on back page, col 5



Mrs Nicky Harrison, who condemned the proposal

## Winnie Mandela is again dragged away by police

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of Mr Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned leader of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), was yesterday forcibly dragged from her home in Soweto by South African security policemen for the second time in two days.

There was no immediate information on where she was last night, but a police spokesman said he thought it was possible she was being held at a police station in Krugersdorp, a town to the north west of Johannesburg. He refused to answer further questions.

The drama began on Saturday when the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis Le Grange, cancelled Mrs Mandela's banishment, in force since 1977, to a remote rural town in the Orange Free State, and also slightly relaxed some other restrictions on her.

At the same time, he issued a new decree which prohibits her from being in the Johannesburg and Roodepoort magisterial districts, which include the Soweto township where the Mandela family home is located.

At about 5.30pm on Saturday, security policemen arrived at the house to enforce the new regulation. When Mrs Mandela refused to leave, according to a witness, a policeman drew a pistol and pointed it at her neck. "They dragged her (out)... she was resisting, by holding on to doors, on to anything she could put her hands on," the witness said. The police later denied that a gun had been pointed at her.

It was at first reported that Mrs Mandela had been taken to a hotel at Jan Smuts Airport, where the police had reserved a room for her. But she did not book in, and is understood to have spent the night with friends in Laudium, an Indian township near Pretoria.

She returned yesterday to her house in Orlando, a district of Soweto. She was being interviewed by journalists when the security police called again at about 11.15 a.m. There were about 12 of them, including one policeman-woman, in plain clothes.

The police walked into her living room, and one stood over the chair in which she was sitting and read a statement saying that she was being arrested under the Internal Security Act.

One of the journalists who had hidden in another room when the police arrived said: "There was a lot of shouting and shoving and pushing going on in the living room. Mrs Mandela was heard to shout: 'Leave me alone, you injured me last night' - a reference to her ankle which was injured during the Saturday eviction."

She locked herself in her bedroom, insisting that she be allowed to change her clothes and that she could not do this in front of the police. She was eventually dragged away, protesting loudly.

Continued on back page, col 3

## Pope praises anti-apartheid protesters

Rome (AP) - The Pope spoke out against racism in South Africa yesterday, saying anti-apartheid demonstrators championed the "undeniable" rights of man.

Speaking after his weekly blessing in St Peter's Square, the Pope praised about 10,000 people who had marched through Rome the previous day to protest against apartheid. "They demonstrate an affirmation of the values and the undeniable rights that help make man more human, and help him to realize his true dignity... And to elevate him socially, culturally and spiritually," he told an estimated 4,000 people, including some of the protesters, gathered in the square.

The Pope said the Roman Catholic Church regarded such actions with "approval and support."

6 Bishop's appeal: Bishop Trevor Huddleston, president of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, sent cables to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, President Reagan, President Mitterrand, Chancellor Kohl, and the UN Secretary-General, urging them to intervene with Pretoria to secure Mrs Mandela's unconditional release.

Continued on back page, col 3

## US alarm on missiles for Libya

The installation of Soviet-made SA5 long-range, anti-aircraft missiles in Libya has increased tensions between the United States and the government of Colonel Gaddafi (Christopher Thomas writes from Washington).

"This is a significant and dangerous escalation in the Soviet-Libyan arms relationship," the State Department said. "This clearly exceeds any legitimate security requirements the Libyans have."

The Libyan Government confirmed the presence of the missiles at the weekend. The US Government said it had made clear its concern to Moscow about Soviet support for "an irresponsible and erratic regime" but that "the Soviet response did not address our concerns."

The SA5 is relatively old and slow but could hit reconnaissance aircraft at heights of up to 95,000 feet. It has a range of about 150 miles.

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## Pravda call for Afghan dialogue

From a Correspondent Moscow

The Soviet press has admitted for the first time that many Afghans are opposed to the six-year-old communist takeover of their country and that mistakes have been made by Moscow.

An article in Saturday's *Pravda* said "far from all" Afghans had accepted the Soviet-backed Marxist Government of Mr Babrak Karmal. The Communist Party daily called for "positive" dialogue between the Government and those that opposed it, and said time was needed to tackle the problems facing the regime.

"It is going to take time to remove accumulated prejudices and dispel illusions. An atmosphere of positive dialogue must be created between social and political forces, including those who are now in positions hostile to the revolution, for the sake of the national revival of Afghanistan," it said.

The leading article headed: "For widening the social base of the Afghan revolution," said Mr Karmal's party knew it had to accept some compromises to unite the country.

Rumours have circulated among diplomats in Moscow that Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, has been urging Mr Karmal to incorporate more divergent forces within the Afghan Government. It is not clear whether this might include the rebels, who have been fighting a guerrilla campaign since the Russian invasion in December 1979.

The war has intensified in recent months and diplomats believe Moscow is becoming increasingly concerned about the political and military effects.

Afghan milestone, page 5

## Ferry delays persist as holiday starts

By John Young

For millions of people the Christmas holiday appears to have begun at the weekend and is likely to continue until after the new year.

Traffic leaving London and other large cities caused "panic" from an early hour on Saturday, according to the Automobile Association.

Despite long delays on ferry services, as a result of industrial disputes, more people than ever seemed to be heading abroad, and the link road from the M4 to Heathrow airport was the scene of an almost solid traffic jam for several hours.

The AA said yesterday that a combination of the continuing Townsend-Thames strike, a French seaman's dispute, and high winds which prevented any hovercraft sailings, had caused serious difficulties at the Channel ports on Saturday.

Dover was particularly badly affected, with traffic tailed back along the M2 as far as Canterbury. The position improved yesterday but, although the French Sealink services were again operating a limited service, almost all ferries were fully booked, and would-be travellers without tickets were advised to "forget it".

High winds and heavy rain brought flooding and blocked roads to parts of Yorkshire and north west England over the weekend, and motorists on minor roads were advised to take extreme caution.

Families in many parts of the Lake District were mopping up last night as the flooding which affected the area on Saturday began to subside.

Several minor roads in the River Eden Valley near Carlisle were still impassable.

Among the worst affected places yesterday was Keswick, where flood water several feet

deep covered parts of the town at the height of the flooding.

In Carlisle, some homes were sandbagged when there was a threat that the river would burst its flood banks, but the full-scale alert by water authorities was called off as the rain eased during the evening.

The London Weather Centre forecast a mild Christmas in most parts of Britain, with only the northern isle and the hill areas of northern Scotland experiencing anything approaching wintry conditions. But it expected the weather to turn noticeably colder later in the week as northerly winds moved south.

The big stores are reporting yet another season of record sales. The John Lewis group said yesterday that the 21 department stores had done more than £24 million of business in each of the first two weeks in December, exceeding the previous best of £23 million in the final week before Christmas last year.

One new factor was that people seemed to be buying more household furnishings and appliances, as well as gifts for each other. Microwave cookers were now heading the list, replacing video recorders which best sellers a year ago.

But northern branches had not done as well as those in the south. "Broadly speaking, in Newcastle, Sheffield and Liverpool, in particular, they have had a comparatively modest Christmas," an official said.

In contrast, Hamleys, the London toy store, reported many customers arriving in Rolls-Royces on Saturday morning so that they could take large articles like rocking horses and computerized bicycles straight home.

## Kidnapped Briton's plea reveals clues to prison

From Robert Fisk Beirut

Mr Alec Collett's drawn features stared from the front page of yesterday morning's *Al Nahar* appealing for Mrs Thatcher to release Muslims imprisoned in Britain so that he can secure his own freedom from captivity.

The videotape of the kidnapped British writer, mysteriously delivered to two of Beirut's daily papers, captured the attention of the headline writers almost as much as the arrival last week of Mr Terry Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's peripatetic emissary, who is seeking the release of the four American hostages in Lebanon.

If Mr Waite is hoping that the spirit of Christmas will help to persuade the captors of the four Americans to free their prisoners, Mr Collett's kidnappers clearly hope Mrs Thatcher will be similarly influenced.

However unlikely this may be, Mr Collett's videotape has prompted the new British Ambassador in Beirut to seek a meeting with his kidnappers. "We want to talk to these people," Mr John Gray said, "but we require them to contact us and I'm available."

Almost inevitably, Mr Waite was drawn into the same affair, agreeing that he, too, would be prepared to meet Mr Collett's captors even though his primary concern remains the four

kidnapped Americans. Mr Collett's message, however, was more than just a Christmas appeal to his Prime Minister, for there were some intriguing clues to the location in Lebanon and to the identity of the men holding him prisoner.

His suggestion that he might be handed over to the Popular Liberation Army militia implies that he must be imprisoned in Sidon, the only city in which the Sunni Muslim group exists, and strongly suggest that he is held by Palestinians, probably by members of Abu Nidal's anti-Arafat movement which was responsible for the attempted assassination of the Israeli Ambassador to London in 1982.

It seems certain that the "Muslim prisoners" for whose release Mr Collett asked refer to the gunmen who were tried and convicted for the crime in London. Mr Collett's long prison is therefore probably somewhere within Sidon's huge Palestinian refugee camp at Ein Helwe.

The painful appeals being made here this Christmas have been augmented by even more pitiful demands from the relatives of Lebanese civilians kidnapped over the past 10 years, most of whom, far from sending videotapes or messages to their families, were long ago murdered and buried in unmarked graves.

Nor is the Christmas spirit

likely to hold much interest for villagers in southern Lebanon, the only area of Lebanon where Christ is known to have taught. Pro-Israeli militiamen yesterday were again reported to have shelled the neighbouring villages of Yater and Kafra. This time, according to the police in Tyre, five civilians were killed.

● LONDON: The Government appealed yesterday to Mr Collett's kidnappers to release him. Such a move would do more than anything else to help the cause of the Palestinians, Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State, Foreign Office, said.

But he rejected any idea that the Government would do any deals with Mr Collett's terrorist captors.

THE TIMES  
1785-1985

### Tomorrow

Short sharp shock  
A Christmas story  
with a high-tech  
twist from  
Peter Ackroyd

Reaching the parts...  
How our man  
in Mongolia  
received his  
Christmas pudding

Style story  
Glad-rag tidings  
for the festive  
season from  
Ali MacGraw

Star gazing  
What today's  
wise men  
look for in  
the heavens

### Portfolio

The Times weekly Portfolio  
competition prize of £20,000  
was won on Saturday by Mrs  
Anne Barratt of Iwer, Bucking-  
hamshire. Two winners shared  
the daily prize of £2,000. Mr  
M. Winters, of Sidcup, Kent,  
and Mr A. Bostar, of Tagby,  
Leicestershire.  
Portfolio list, page 14; rules  
and how to play Information  
Service, back page.

### Chess title rematch in doubt

The European Chess Union  
called on the Russians to  
withdraw Anatoly Karpov's  
challenge in February's world  
title rematch, for which London  
has bid £600,000, claiming three  
months as insufficient between  
matches. The champion, Gary  
Kasparov, meanwhile, sparked  
to beat Jan Timman 4-2, by  
winning the last game of their  
challenge match.  
Fifth game, page 4

### Gunmen charged

M Philippe Varin, a French  
prosecutor who was one of the  
last four hostages freed by three  
gunmen in Nantes, said his  
former captors will face  
attempted murder charges.

### Farley check

Checks on Farley's factory in  
Kendal, have started after the  
withdrawal of Ostermilk. Oster-  
milk and Complan in the wake  
of a salmonella outbreak.  
Back Page

### Legal package

Solicitors are to put a package  
of proposals for rights of  
audience in higher courts to  
judges after discussions with  
barristers ended in deadlock.  
Page 3

### Oil blaze clash

Police fought with some of the  
2,000 people barred from their  
homes after a huge oil depot fire  
near Naples, in which four  
people died.  
Still blazing, page 5

### Lahore arrests

A big protest in Lahore  
against Pakistan's martial law  
will go ahead despite the arrest  
of leading opposition figures.  
Page 4

### New Irish party

A new political party, the  
Progressive Democrats, has  
set up in the Irish  
Republic by the deputies ex-  
pelled from the opposition  
Fianna Fail party. Private  
opinion polls suggest it could  
win 15 seats at the next election.  
Page 2

### Hunt ban

Farmers renting land from  
Warwickshire County Council  
are to be asked to sign an  
agreement banning hunting on  
their land.  
Page 3

### Swedes win Cup

In spite of two victories by  
Boris Becker, the Wimbledon  
champion, West Germany were  
beaten 3-2 by the Swedes in the  
Davis Cup tennis final.  
Page 16

### PCW resignation

Mr Peter Cameron Webb, the  
disgraced former Lloyd's under-  
writer and PCW agency chair-  
man, has resigned as general  
manager of a Miami insurance  
firm.  
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# New party aims to offer 'real alternative' to Irish voters

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A new political party has been launched in the Irish Republic with the aim of breaking the traditional mould of politics by giving "a new and real alternative to voters".

The Progressive Democrats is to be led by two deputies with the opposition Fianna Fail Party, and hopes to attract support from it and Fine Gael by putting up candidates in more than half the constituencies at the next general election.

The new party wants to win votes from Fianna Fail supporters unhappy with the leadership of Mr Charles Haughey and, in particular, the opposition's stance on the Anglo-Irish deal, which it sees as a betrayal of the aspiration to Irish unity.

Equally, it hopes to attract backing from Fine Gael - Labour voters disillusioned with the coalition government's performance from those voters who have backed Dr Garret FitzGerald's blend of free-market economics combined with liberal social policies.

With half the population under the age of 25, the organization, launched in Dublin on an overdraft of £15,000, believes there are growing numbers of young and affluent urban voters impatient with the conservatism of Irish society and its two main political parties.

The leader of the new party is Mr Desmond O'Malley, aged 46, a former Fianna Fail minister of justice who played a central role in three attempts to unseat Mr Haughey as leader of the opposition. He said that he believed support would come equally from Fianna Fail, Fine Gael, and from a large segment of the population who had no

strong commitment to either party, or did not vote.

The party hoped to command a "substantial voice in the next Dail" by winning seats on a platform offering a peaceful approach to the Northern Ireland situation, tax reform, support for free enterprise, a clear distinction between church and State, and support for the removal of the constitutional ban on divorce.

It will concentrate on constituencies in Dublin, Cork and Limerick and seats on the eastern seaboard where Fine Gael with its "liberal" image, is particularly strong.

His co-founder is Miss Mary Harney, who was expelled from Fianna Fail for defying the party whip and supporting the government in the vote on the Anglo-Irish deal. So far no other deputies or senators have backed the venture publicly.

Polls conducted privately for the Progressive Democrats indicate that it could win up to 15 seats enabling it to hold the balance of power or negotiate conditions on the formation of a coalition government.

Government sources suggest that a more realistic figure is eight, four from each of the two main parties.

The present state of the parties is: Fine Gael 69; Labour 15; Fianna Fail 74; Independent 3; Workers' Party 2; Progressive Democrats 2; Speaker 1.

● Eddie Gallagher, aged 42, who was jailed for 20 years for the abduction of Dr. Tiede Herrema, a Dutch industrialist, has started a protest fast in Mountjoy prison, Dublin, because he claims he should be released after serving half of his sentence.

## Foam prank girl 'died naturally'

A girl who collapsed during a shaving foam prank died of natural causes, a post-mortem examination has shown. Tests are continuing and an inquest will be opened today. Friends of Samantha Hill aged 15, were spraying shaving foam at her at school term Christmas disco in Torquay, Devon, on Friday night when she collapsed.

Her father, Mr Brian Hill, of Grenville Avenue, Torquay, said yesterday: "I refuse to believe the prank was not the cause of her death. If it was not for the prank it caused, she would be alive for Christmas."

**TV meets union**

Talks aimed at settling the ITV electricians' dispute are to take place today between the EETPU and the television companies.

The electricians have been in dispute for two weeks over a new draft agreement covering overtime working and lift contracts.

Cream tip No 31

## Liven up those turkey left-overs.

### Turkey Fricassee.

Why not have a delicious change from the usual turkey left-overs?

Stir 450g (1lb) cooked turkey strips into 450ml (1 pint) basic white sauce and bring to the boil, stirring. Simmer for 5-10 minutes.

Then add 150ml (1/4 pint) of Double Cream. Or for a slightly sharper flavour try Sour Cream. Season to taste. Add cooked peas and mushrooms. Serve with a garnish of toasted flaked almonds. This will serve 4.

We bet you won't wait until next Christmas to give turkey (or chicken) the special cream treatment again.

Get fresh with the cream this Christmas.



# Westland's two-year slide that led to today's crisis meeting

## The single strategy that crashed

By Colin Hughes

A management which put all its faith in a single vulnerable strategy for survival lay behind Westland's two-year slide into crisis.

The controversy which has come to dominate political headlines during the past two weeks began at Long Beach, California, in November 1983, when a Westland W-30 civil helicopter crashed from 2,500 ft.

The W-30, derived from the military Lynx helicopter, was planned to be Westland's answer to the need for exports by the late 1980s, when a gap in military sales was expected.

Every egg was placed in the W-30 basket at the worst possible time. Although industry predictions of a world helicopter boom worth £50 billion in sales held good for the 1990s, this decade was affected by recession.

The tail rotor on the W-30 which crashed in California raised the first questions over Westland's helicopter, and led to a plunge in shares.

At first the setback seemed temporary, with good annual results announced in December 1983, and shareholders' dividends up. It was also announced that the Indian Government had ordered 21 W-30s, worth £50 million, for its offshore oil and gas industry.

Then, in July last year, profits slumped as the order book started looking thin, and it became clear that Airbus, Los Angeles operators of the crashed aircraft, were selling their W-30 fleet.

Westland was trying to gain competition from an Arab consortium which had backed out of a deal to buy another unit of W-30s. In August, Westland had to announce 700 job losses, and shares fell again.

The British Government stepped in, with a straightforward interventionist subsidy offer to India. Aid worth £65 million through the Overseas Development Administration would be paid to help towards the cost of the order.

The long-term future still looked good for Westland. It had just signed contracts with Agusta of Italy to co-produce a new anti-submarine helicopter, which the Ministry of Defence wanted to replace the Sea King. Research, design and development.

Then, on December 19, the full extent of Westland's plight became public. Since the previous September 30, the company had received orders for only two Lynx helicopters to export, and letters of intent for three Sea Kings.

The W-30, Westland's answer to bridging the sales gap until the EH 101 arrived, had won no

fresh orders and the RAF showed no interest in buying the new military version of the W-30. Company borrowing had risen from £20 million to £60 million in months, to retain skilled staff and plant.

To Westland's management the plan had seemed sound. Given that the company relied for 90 per cent of its income on Ministry of Defence contracts, a sales base now weakened by government cash limits, the obvious route to diversify lay in the civilian market.

But the market never materialized.

It took from February of this year to early this month for the implications of impending Westland collapse to rock Cabinet politics.

Feb 1985: MoD considers Westland rescue package, for the first time in earnest. Although Westland had been asked to propose Wessex and Puma replacement (AS1 404) one year earlier, only Sikorsky, with Short Brothers of Belfast, and Aerospaciale, of France, had responded. Americans offered Black Hawk, for building in Belfast. French offered an advanced Puma version.

MoD attempt to persuade British Aerospace to bid, a move seen as condemnation of Westland management.

Lord Aldington, Westland's chairman, fulfills decision of previous year and retires, replaced by Sir Basil Blackwell, the vice-chairman.

April 1985: MoD projects request from Westland for extra funds to research and develop W-30. MoD says aircraft is inadequate.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, India's prime minister, deals blow by querying W-30 deal: he says it is too big and expensive to run.

April 25: Bristow bid for Westland, at £89 million for 51 per cent holding. Westland's debts now £70 million.

May: Sir Basil begins searching for a buyer to save the company from Bristow takeover.

June Search fails. Sir Basil gives in to Bristow, but Bristow suddenly announces on June 21 its bid is off. Having looked at the books, Bristow's bankers believe Westland's state is too parlous to take the risk.

June 26: Sir John Cuckney takes over as Westland chairman, after discreet proposal from Bank of England that Sir Basil should go.

July 18: Westland Engineers sold off for £2.5 million cash.

Aug 6: MoD orders seven more Lynx.

Sept 8: Mr Gandhi shows how interest in the helicopter is to be back up in Europe, London and the US are about to go public.

Sept 27: Sir John removes five



Mr Michael Heseltine backed Europe package

Sir John Cuckney removed board members

Mr Leon Brittan involved in clash

Westland board members, including the helicopter business' managing director.

Sept 29: Sikorsky announces a bid for 29 per cent, enough to avoid full takeover. The Prime Minister is searching for ways to raise £100 million to help Westland over the late 1980s order book gap.

October: Mr Gandhi says the Indian deal is an option.

Oct 23: Westland borrowing now up to £100 million.

Nov 29: Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for defence, meets the chief executive of Agusta, Aerospaciale, and Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm, the West German manufacturer, for talks.

Dec 4: Westland announces another 740 job cuts, and the three European companies submit a formal declaration of intent.

Dec 11: Share dealing in Westland suspended.

Dec 5-12: British Aerospace joins Euro talks. European defence ministers agree to co-operate on production and development, but Sikorsky deal looks more solid: the Americans propose that Westland build and sell Black Hawk. Westland has now brought Fiat in.

Dec 14: Westland accepts Sikorsky-Fiat offer.

Dec 15: GEC announces that the MoD has sought its intervention to back up the European offer. The lines for Cabinet confrontation are drawn.

Sept 27: Sir John removes five

# Libyans on Fiat board bid their time of directors on options

By John Earle

If Westland's deal with United Technologies and Fiat goes through, the Yeovil-based helicopter maker will have Colonel Gaddafi's Libyans among its masters. Lafco, the Libyan-Arab foreign investment company, holds about 13 per cent of the shares of Fiat, Italy's biggest multinational, which besides motor cars, makes a wide range of goods, including equipment for the Italian armed services.

Lafco, which is the Libyan Government holding company for its foreign investments, has two members on the Fiat board: Mr Ali Mahmoud Elgheriani and Mr Muhammad Siala. In addition, Mr Siala is a member of the five-man executive committee running Fiat under the chairman, Signor Giovanni Agnelli.

The Libyan Arab Foreign Bank originally bought a holding of about 9 per cent in Fiat in the 1970s, when Libya was flush with petrodollars. The purchase, announced at a specially convened press conference, was negotiated by Mr Abdulla Saudi, who has emerged as one of the leading bankers in the Arab world. Subsequently, the holding was transferred to Lafco.

Fiat executives have always said they enjoyed a satisfactory working relationship with the Libyans. In all fields of trade Italian companies have close links with Libya, although because of the fall in the price of oil, Tripoli has allowed payments arrears of several hundred million dollars to accumulate.

Fiat is the parent holding company for 11 operational companies which, in addition to cars, are involved in engineering, heavy vehicles, tractors, machine tools, aerospace, precision instruments, railway equipment, as well as light manufacturing and service activities. The Libyans are reported to keep a low profile in the company's management.

By Our Labour Reporter

Most of the unions at Westland are adopting a wait-and-see attitude to the corporate and political imbroglio.

Mr Jack Whymann, executive councillor of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, which represents most of the 11,500 workforce, said yesterday that the European solution was preferred, "but in the last analysis we would have to support whichever provided the most security for our members".

The largest white-collar union, TASS, is the only one so far unequivocally to support the European bid.

Westland Board

Sir John Cuckney became chairman in June after Sir Basil Blackwell resigned having first rejected and later accepted takeover bid for company from Bristow. Bristow which was withdrawn in May. Also chairman of Thomas Cook Group, John Brown plc, and Royal Insurance and Midland Bank. Resignation of Westland board at end of September, replacing two executive and three non-executive directors.

Admiral Sir John Treacher: director of Westland since 1978, vice-chairman since 1984. Former vice-chief of naval staff and Allied C-in-C Channel and Eastern Atlantic. On National Car Parks board.

## NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Sir Mervyn Thomas: former chairman, Bank Xerox Ltd deputy chairman, John Brown plc, since 1984; Westland board since September.

Lord Finsbury as Anthony Toyle: was Conservative MP for Richmond 1959-1983.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Mr Hugh Stewart: Westland's Technical group until taking over as chief executive after Sir Basil's resignation.

Mr Charles Verrall: finance director; previously chief financial officer, Midland Bank domestic division.

Mr Bill Miller: head of Normalair Garrett.

## THE OFFERS COMPARED

	Sikorsky/Fiat	European consortium
New money for Westland	£72.5m	£73.1m
Outside help	£20m (option for £15m more)	£27.1m
NewWest/Baird's converting money owed into shares	£24m	£22m
Fights issue to shareholders	£14.2m (at 50p a share)	£15m (at 50p a share)
Existing shareholder stake in new company	50.1%	68%
Work for Westland	1m men hours over 3 yrs guaranteed	3.3m men hours over 5 yrs. No guarantee.
Participation in Black Hawk Technology for MOD. Work on French developments + marketing NH90, rival for Black Hawk, for Westland production. French threaten to take away 1.75m hours of coding work.		

# Move against Japanese curbs

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The Government is masterminding a new European initiative which would reduce Britain's bulging trade deficit with Japan.

In spite of repeated promises by the Japanese to open their doors to more British goods, exporters still meet obstacles and the trade gap between the two countries now tops £3 billion a year.

Faced with growing pressure from Conservative backbenchers to take retaliatory measures against what are seen as unfair Japanese trade barriers, Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has come up with a new idea aimed

at making the Japanese government reveal its import strategy.

If, as expected, Britain's EEC partners agree to the plan, Japan would be asked to declare its annual import targets, the amount of goods it expects to import.

At present such figures are kept secret, in contrast with the approach of western governments. A Whitehall source said: "They know what we will buy from them, but they refuse to say what they will buy from us."

If Japan co-operates, EEC governments would have a benchmark against which they could monitor exports.

But if Mr Brittan's initiative

## Disasters at sea

# Huge tankers branded 'unsound'

By Richard Dowden

A leading naval scientist has accused the Government, Lloyd's Register of Shipping and shipbuilders of ignoring research which shows that metal fatigue has probably caused the loss of several big ships in recent years, and that huge tankers and bulk carriers are fundamentally unsound.

Professor Richard Bishop, vice-chancellor and principal of Brunel University in west London, who has been studying how ships behave at sea for more than 15 years, said that attitudes to shipbuilding in the United Kingdom are "both dangerous and potentially ruinous."

"If I had to guess what is the major cause for large ships going missing I should unhesitatingly vote for massive fatigue cracking," Professor Bishop said. His research has tried to estimate the distortion and motions of ships in rough seas and how these might lead to cracking.

The safety rules applying to the construction of ships ignore both hull cracking or "damping", which is the ability of a ship to bend with the waves.

Professor Bishop said that after extensive study by a team at Brunel, it was concluded that the Derbyshire, the largest British ship lost at sea, had split just in front of the superstructure "after suffering gross fatigue".

The Derbyshire, one of 160 ships which foundered or went missing in 1980, vanished off Japan with the loss of 44 lives. There was no SOS and only a

small part of a lifeboat was found.

The report was sent to the Department of Transport. Later an internal survey by the department disclosed that all five of the Derbyshire's sister ships, built between 1971 and 1976 at the Tyneside yard of Swan Hunter, suffered from cracking at the exact point the Brunel study suggested.

Derbyshire had split. One, the Tyne Bridge, had to take refuge in the Elbe and its crew taken off by helicopter in 1983, after it developed a massive crack.

There has been no public inquiry and no Department of Transport report on the loss of the Derbyshire. Dependents of its crew are suing Swan Hunter, now part of British Shipbuilders, for compensation.

All the sister ships are in foreign hands now and their owners, spoken to last week, would not confirm whether they had undergone structural alteration in the light of the report.

Professor Bishop's view is supported by Mr Marshall Meek, a former head of ship technology at British Shipbuilders, who described the shipbuilding world as a "sea of incompetence and indifference."

"There is just no incentive for shipbuilder, operator, repairer or anyone else to go out of his way to achieve greater safety by incorporating more advanced technology," he said.

The departments of Trade and Industry and Transport avoided answering questions on the subject and a Lloyd's Register of Shipping representa-

tive was unavailable for comment. A spokesman of the Royal Institution of Naval Architects said that he would not comment and did not want the institution's name mentioned in connection with any article on the subject.

Professor Bishop said: "In aircraft manufacture safety is established by scientific principle at every step. Safety is common sense and economics paramount. In shipbuilding it appears to be the other way round."

"The rules are the problem... they need a complete overhaul in a qualitative sense. I cannot get this across to the professionals. We must have published well over 100 scientific papers on the subject but we have never had anyone from Lloyd's or an important British shipbuilder come to Brunel for help. On the other hand we have research students from all over the world, particularly Japan and China; a long lead being lost for Britain," he said.

Professor Bishop said that small ships survive better than large ones because they have high frequency hulls which cope better with the low frequencies of the sea.

Large ships, however, have low frequency hulls which respond differently. They pick up the rhythm of waves, whereas the rapid vibrations of small ships dissipate these powers.

Shipbuilders and classifiers do not appear to understand this problem and the rules of shipbuilding have not been changed accordingly, he said.

# Managers rebuff pay restraint

By Barrie Clement

Labour Reporter

Government arguments on the need for pay restraint have lost support among managers and trade unionists, according to a survey published today by Epic Industrial Communications.

Only 58 per cent of managers accept the contention that large wage rises lead to unemployment, compared with 73 per cent in January. Trade union agreement with the proposition is down from 39 per cent to 22 per cent, the researchers found.

However, opposition parties have also been backing for their income policy approach to the economy. Only 29 per cent of managers and 47 per cent of trade unionists believe incomes policy would make a contribution to economic recovery.

In addition, 81 per cent of trade unionists and 85 per cent of managers agree that successful private companies will effectively ignore any such policy.

About 39 per cent of trade unionists believe that the Government's approach to public sector pay rises is "as effective as any other form of incomes policy".

Epic Industrial Relations Survey (7 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BP)

# British dons take sides on Star Wars

By Ronald Faux

Scientists at both Edinburgh universities are involved in the Star Wars programme controversy. Heriot-Watt University has become the first centre outside America to be offered a contract to take part in the SDI research programme and granted political clearance. It will be asking for \$1 million to develop optical computer, in which the university's physics department holds a world lead.

The speed and integrity of signals transferred in such a system by light beam rather than wire is so greatly increased that the implications are enormous for such complex computer-based programmes as the SDI. It was these implications that drew American attention to the Heriot-Watt research.

Prof Desmond Smith, head of the department, and leader of a European Community research programme designing the world's first optical computer said: "Transmitting information by optical methods is some 200 times faster, but much more exciting are the second to a computer design which could come from this research, lead eventually to computers that operate 1,000 times faster than at present, with a recognition ability matching that of the human brain." Such a computer would

be an invaluable element of a Star Wars system.

But scientists based at Edinburgh University department of artificial intelligence, expressing a personal and not a university opinion, are so alarmed by the implications of the SDI programme that they have formed a group known as Computing and Social Responsibility.

Dr Alan Bundy, a reader in the department, said: "Our objection is that the SDI programme would probably be the largest ever written. If it was used for real it would have to work the first time. From our experience as computer programmers, we know that any programme of any size will inevitably suffer from bugs which no amount of research in the future is going to resolve."

The software for such a system would be so vulnerable there would be an inevitable risk that it would release a catastrophic onslaught in space for the wrong reason. "It would have to react in a few tenths of a second to a constructed threat. We have already had the Nord early warning system triggered off to a high state of alertness by a flock of geese and the moon rising. This unreliable system would react so quickly no human intervention would be possible."

The Press Council has rejected three complaints against separate national newspapers concerning the National Front and a similar organisation, in adjudications published today.

Allegations in the riots at the European Cup final in Brussels, at which 38 people died, are the subject of two of those complaints: an attempt by two journalists posing as sympathisers to infiltrate a similar organisation prompted the third.

Mr Patrick Harrington of the National Front's legal department had complained of articles in the *Daily Star* (as it was then) under the headline "The Evil Ones", alleging that members of the Front and other political organisations were responsible for causing the riot.

Although the NF was quoted as denying general responsibility, the editor declined to allow the group to reply to the

# Press Council rejects NF complaints

specific allegations, and refused to provide the name of a Special Branch officer quoted.

The Press Council ruled that *The Star*, as it is now known, had published the reasonably balanced report on the evidence adduced; there was no obligation to publish a further reply.

A National Front complaint against the *Sunday Mirror* for a similar story is also rejected on the ground that "the story included a vigorous response by the National Front" whose secretary was quoted as saying the reports of their involvement were "complete rubbish".

In the third complaint, Mr Terry Flynn, of Crispin Road, Buryville, Milton Keynes, claimed that two *Sunday People* journalists improperly used subterfuge, acting as agents provocateurs when seeking information about him and his organization, the November 9th Society.

# Press Council rejects NF complaints

A story subsequently appeared in the "Man of the People Investigates" column saying that Mr Flynn's group used a minor house in Shropshire for indoctrinating British National Front members. A subsidiary story ran that Mr Flynn and his henchmen had distributed leaflets in an attempt to blacken the name of a Labour councillor.

The Press Council ruled that the activities of the complainant and his organization were "matters which ought to be published in the public interest" and that the newspaper was justified in using subterfuge to obtain the information.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$12.00, Canada \$12.00, Denmark \$12.00, France \$12.00, Germany \$12.00, Greece \$12.00, Hong Kong \$12.00, India \$12.00, Italy \$12.00, Japan \$12.00, New Zealand \$12.00, Norway \$12.00, Portugal \$12.00, Singapore \$12.00, South Africa \$12.00, Sweden \$12.00, Switzerland \$12.00, Taiwan \$12.00, Thailand \$12.00, USA \$12.00, West Germany \$12.00, Yugoslavia \$12.00.



## Judges to consider claims by solicitors in new round of 'Bar Wars'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Solicitors have drawn up a radical package of proposals for wide rights of audience in the higher courts in the latest round of their battle with the Bar.

The proposals are to be put to a meeting on January 13 of 105 Court of Appeal and High Court judges. Talks between the two branches of the profession have already reached deadlock.

The solicitors are clearly laying claim to far wider rights of audience than they have so far indicated, and their action is certain to fuel antagonism between the profession's two branches in what has become colloquially known as "Bar Wars".

Talks between the branches have led to agreement only that in a very limited range of High Court actions solicitors should be able to appear, and there are still wide differences between them.

The Law Society is now proceeding to put its case to the Master of the Rolls, Sir John Donaldson, who instigated the meeting of 105 senior judges to discuss the issue as a preliminary to a recent test case on rights of audience brought by Cyril Smith, MP.

A special committee of the Law Society has drawn up its "shopping list" of work it wants for solicitors in the High Court, where barristers have a monopoly on all proceedings in open court.

That list includes not only the strictly "formal and unop-

posed" matters, such as applications for injunctions in the Chancery Division, statements of settlement in libel or personal injury cases, and company winding-up petitions, for example, but the right of solicitors to argue costs at the end of an action and to take over cases where a barrister at the last minute falls ill or has to be changed.

The solicitors are arguing that in the case of costs, it is the solicitor who not only has the detailed knowledge but also a direct interest. Solicitors are responsible for briefing barristers and paying their costs.

In cases where a barrister has to drop out suddenly the solicitors argue, that the person who has followed the proceedings right through and is therefore best able to take the case over is a solicitor. That might apply particularly in a long-running personal injury case.

Talks between the two branches have been aimed at deciding what proceedings are "formal and unopposed" because it was in such proceedings that the royal commission on legal services in 1979 recommended that solicitors should have a right to appear.

The Lord Chancellor's department has recently indicated the royal commission's proposal should be implemented and invited both branches to consider how this can be done.

The Bar is taking a strictly

limited view of what constitutes "formal and unopposed". It may agree that the reading of a statement at the end of a libel action would be covered, but rejects any notion that any proceedings involving argument, would be covered.

For its part the Bar is pressing in return for barristers to have a right to deal direct with clients in certain cases. Apart from rights of audience, the profession operates a second restrictive practice, which is that only solicitors deal with clients.

The Bar has announced it is changing its rules requiring counsel appearing in magistrates' courts to have a solicitor in attendance. The Law Society has agreed to this, but on the Bar's wider claims for direct access by other professions, such as accountants, the society has not given way, and has requested "more details".

Next month's meeting of judges comes after a test case backed by the Law Society and Times Newspapers over whether a solicitor could read a settlement of a libel action. The Master of the Rolls rejected the appeal but said judges could decide as a group who should meet before them.

If the Law Society is unsuccessful at the January meeting it has made clear that it is only the start of its campaign for increased rights of audience and it will if necessary press for legislation to secure the change.

## Doors open for the poor and homeless

Crisis at Christmas will open the doors of the disused Central London Garage, near Euston station, at 2 pm today to welcome more than 1,000 homeless people.

During the next seven days the charity, which for the past 19 years has been giving the homeless a Christmas treat, will serve more than 15,000 hot meals and provide clean clothes and somewhere to sleep for the lonely and unemployed.

This Christmas, the charity's army of 750 volunteers are preparing for a record number of homeless, particularly the young, who have moved to London from country and outer London areas, only to find hard times.

Some people aged as young as 16 will be queuing along with the hundreds of "regular" street vagrants for their share of festive cheer.

After 13 years of helping Crisis at Christmas work smoothly, Mr Caspar Wherry, the charity's Christmas co-ordinator, said it was depressing to realize that the charity was more in demand today than it was 19 years ago.

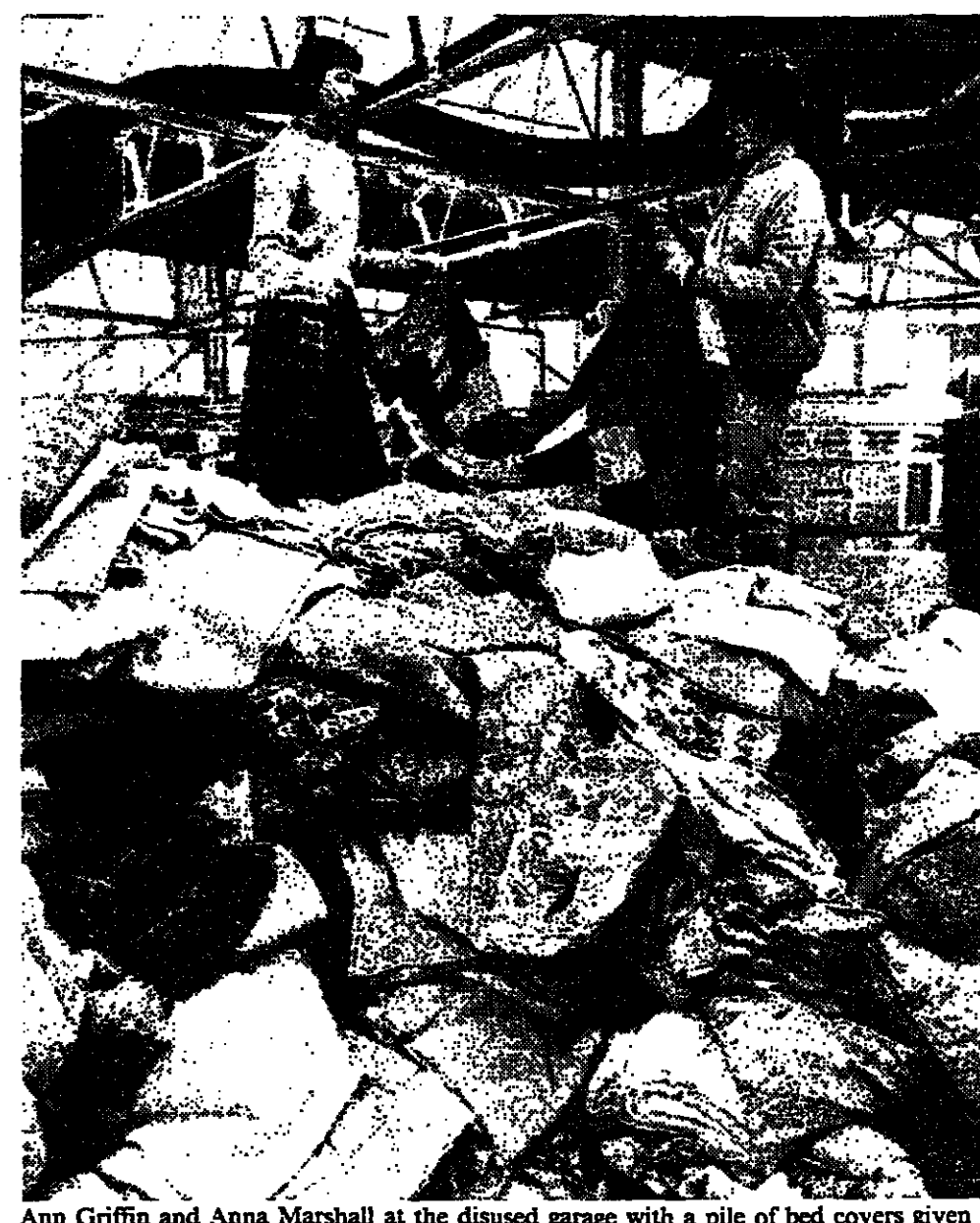
"The plight of the homeless, both young and old, is getting no better. That is the sad reality," Mr Wherry said, as his helpers, many of them college students and Londoners, prepared the vast Christmas lunch supplies, as well as a mountain of clothing given by the public.

Shelter, the national housing charity, said that this Christmas will be particularly lonely for the many young homeless aged between 16 and 25. The Government's new board and lodgings regulations, combined with a serious shortage of housing and short-term accommodation throughout Britain, will double, if not treble, the number of single homeless next year, Shelter said.

The real number of homeless in both country and city regions shows that Victorian England has returned with a vengeance," Miss Claire Booker, a spokesman for Shelter, said in London. Tens of thousands will spend Christmas sleeping rough throughout the country, she said.

The lucky ones will find a hot meal and a bed with organizations and charities such as Crisis at Christmas, or temporary accommodation with friends, while they search for work.

In England alone, 83,000 families were classified as homeless last year. In London, a report released by the Greater London Council last month showed a 700 per cent rise in the official homeless total in 15 years, to 27,500 families. But Shelter, Crisis at Christmas and other charities



Ann Griffin and Anna Marshall at the disused garage with a pile of bed covers given to Crisis at Christmas for the homeless. (Photograph: Peter Trievnor.)

believe the number is much higher.

"The high rents on what accommodation is available, and low salaries offered to young people, don't help the situation. Christmas is just the beginning of their own 'hard times'," Miss Booker said.

Shelter will refer many of its young homeless to Crisis at Christmas so they can at least get a roast turkey dinner, a bath and a mattress to sleep on during the festive period.

Shelter believes the Government's board and lodgings regulations have removed the safety net for the single

homeless. "The Government must face up to the fact that there is a young homeless crisis and these youngsters will not just disappear early next year when they are tossed out of their board and lodgings. Instead they will end up sleeping in hedgerows, on streets, under bridges, or roaming the countryside. We face the prospect of a new generation of homeless," Miss Booker said.

Crisis at Christmas will accept donations of food, clothing or money at its headquarters at 212 White-chapel Road, London, E1 1BJ.

and early potatoes, have to be imported to meet market demands which cannot be supplied from store, there is still, clearly, considerable scope for import substitution.

Compared with a cereal crop worth about £2.5 billion, the figures may not seem very large in total, but for individual farmers they still suggest opportunities for diversification. For example, growing 40,000 tonnes more cauliflowers and 200,000 tonnes more onions in Britain could take some 11,500 hectares (30,000 acres) out of unwanted grain production.

Although some imports, notably out-of-season tomatoes

## County bans hunting on 45,000 farm acres

By Hugh Clayton

Environment Correspondent

Warwickshire County Council is to ban foxhunting across its land and will write the ban into new tenancy agreements with farmers. The hunting of hares across the 45,000 acres of farmland owned by the council will not be affected.

The Warwickshire ban, supported by Labour and Alliance councillors, is the first to be imposed by a council in which Conservatives lost control in the May shire elections.

Others are expected to follow, and a proposal to ban the hunting of live prey across more than 40,000 acres of council land in Cambridgeshire has been passed by a narrow majority in the property sub-committee.

The Cambridgeshire proposal will be debated by the full council in February, and is part of a trend that is worrying hunts across the country. Captain Ronnie Wallace, a joint master of the Exmoor foxhounds and chairman of the Masters of Foxhounds Association, said that the remorseless loss of open country was the main threat to foxhunting.

He predicted that a million people would attend the traditional Boxing Day meets of foxhunting.

The League Against Cruel Sports said that the hunting of live prey had been banned by 58 councils throughout Britain. Although they included some inner-city authorities which owned no open countryside, it was an important declaration of principle by hundreds of councillors.

Masters of foxhounds see the council bans as part of a worrying trend to "lock up" stretches of countryside either on animal welfare grounds or as nature reserves.

"There is a temptation for people who do not understand to try to create islands of conservation," Captain Wallace said. "It is not good saying, 'This is my patch, and I am going to keep deer or orchids or butterflies, and no one is going to come onto it.'"

## Upsurge in non-alcoholic drink sales

By Teresa Poole

Sales of low alcohol and alcohol-free lagers and beers have increased during the holiday period, probably in response to a tougher government attitude towards drunken drivers.

The leading non-alcoholic brand, Barbecola, which is estimated to hold 70 per cent of the market, has been selling 15 per cent more in the pre-Christmas weeks, according to Bass Charrington, its manufacturer.

Total sales of such products, at about £16 million a year, are still only a tiny proportion, less than 1 per cent, of the British lager and beer market, but consumers now have a choice of almost a dozen brands.

"We all foresee substantial growth in this area arising from the changes in attitudes," Mr Bob Litterer, the marketing manager at Canada Dry Rawlings, which handles Barbecola, said.

Lager usually contains between 4 per cent and 6 per cent of alcohol by volume. Alcohol-free brands must have less than five parts in ten thousand (0.05 per cent) alcohol and "low alcohol" normally means less than 1 per cent by volume.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, recently launched a vigorous campaign against drunken driving. Mr Mike Ratcliffe, national marketing manager for Allied Breweries said that Mrs Chalker's campaign and the knowledge that the police would stop drivers who looked as if they might have been drinking, had no doubt had an effect.

Allied sells its own alcohol-free lager under the St Christopher trademark, and imports Danish Light, a lager with 0.6 per cent alcohol.

Courage imports two low-alcohol brands, Gerstel and Swan Special Light, both of which are brewed to full strength before having most of the alcohol removed through an extraction process. The other method is to brew the drink to a very low level of alcohol either by using a special strain of yeast or by prematurely stopping the fermentation process.

## Judge accused of kerb crawling

Mr Colin Hart-Leverson, QC, a crown court recorder is to be prosecuted in the new year for alleged kerb crawling in London. Mr Hart-Leverson, aged 49, who has twice stood as a Liberal candidate for Parliament, was summoned last week under section 1 (1) of the Sexual Offences Act 1967.

## Shoppers hurt

A family of three and a girl, aged 13, were hurt last night when a 250lb aluminium and steel pot crashed on to their heads as they were entering the Harpur shopping precinct in Bedford. The parents were allowed home after treatment but their daughter, aged 14, and the girl were admitted with head injuries.

## Air mail

An inflated balloon with a labelled address, sent by Mrs Shirley Butler, of Eastwood, Nottinghamshire, as a Christmas present, has been delivered intact by the post office to her mother in Kent.

## Thousands of extra holidays on offer

By Derek Harris

As bookings for next summer's package holidays continue to flood in stimulated by the price war another of the big operators is boosting its programme with more holiday offers. Horizon, is putting another 70,000 holidays on the market in a new brochure, increasing the size of its summer programme by nearly 14 per cent.

Thomson, which started the price war during the autumn, has added 250,000 holidays to its brochure.

Winter holiday sales are also increasing. The average rise is between 15 per cent and 20 per cent, according to Mr Paul Brett, managing director of Thomson, whose own winter sun bookings have increased almost 29 per cent compared with last winter.

Horizon claims its winter ski bookings are up 70 per cent, and winter sun holiday bookings a fifth.

Long-haul holiday bookings such as those to the Far East and the Caribbean are up probably 15 per cent according to Thomas Cook which reports a 20 per cent increase in bookings on its own long-haul break.

Thomson, whose bookings for next summer's holidays are four times higher than for the

## BMA plea on children and tobacco

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

The British Medical Association has asked stores to reconsider their policies on selling children's books and toys featuring cigarette advertisements.

It has written to Marks & Spencer about a picture book on racing cars, which features on its cover, a car emblazoned with a cigarette brand. The association has also written to Hamleys, the toy store in Regent Street, central London, about its sale of model cars carrying tobacco brand names.

"We are not blaming the retailers but reminding them of a voluntary agreement between the tobacco industry and the Department of Health that children should not be exposed to cigarette advertising in this way," the association said.

## The forgotten illness

## Counting the cost of a daughter's death

The Times series on schizophrenia last week has brought to light tragic cases and the problems they bring to families. Marjorie Wallace explains how one family will have to pay to get at the facts of their daughter's death.

Ruth and James Joly today face legal fees of £3,000 to discover how their mentally ill daughter came to die on a hospital outing to Brighton. The daughter, Angela Joly, aged 41, a patient at St Mary Abbots hospital in west London walked into rough seas from Brighton beach and, in spite of a rescue attempt, drowned.

The hospital telephoned the woman's parents at their home in St George's Square, Fimlico, London, and told them of her death, but gave no further information. To find out what happened they had to instruct lawyers to represent them at the inquest and to cross-examine witnesses.

The inquest was held at Brighton's coroner's court on November 26. Mr Edward Grace, the coroner was told that a party of 29 patients and 11 staff from the hospital went on the annual coach outing to Brighton last August. On arrival the party split up. The staff went shopping in the Lanes, and the patients wandered around the streets or strolled on the beach unsupervised.

A consultant psychiatrist at St Mary Abbots, told the inquest that Miss Joly was greatly distressed and had made a number of suicide attempts in the past.

A statement read by the woman to staff and patients at the hospital the day before the outing was read to the inquest. It described "her violently self-destructive anxiety" and Mr Norman Perrin a fellow patient, told the court how she had been

was an adult, she was deemed by the doctors and social workers to be able to regulate safely her own affairs and to be better off forced to do her own thing and not to be confined.

She had a long history of mental illness at one time diagnosed as "schizo-affective". She had been a gifted child who grew into a beautiful and popular young woman. At the age of 18 she won a county award to Oxford University, but within two weeks of arriving there she had broken down.

Doctors told the parents very little about what was wrong with their daughter, and she improved sufficiently to get a degree at Bristol University. She obtained a series of responsible jobs but was unable to keep any of them.

The loss of a job often triggered acute anxiety and on several occasions she was admitted to hospital. Four times she attempted suicide. After another attempt at Christmas 1984 she was left to live on her own in a flat but could make appointments to see hospital social workers. At the inquest Mrs Joly told the coroner: "They were always telling her she had to stand on her own feet and become more independent from me. Every time she came back from a visit to the social worker, she always seemed worse than before."

By May this year she was so depressed her general practitioner advised that St Mary Abbots accepted her as an inpatient. This they did reluctantly. Her medication, a fortnightly injection of Maudes, a neuroleptic drug which controls the more acute symptoms of schizophrenia, were reduced. She became brighter, but more disturbed, claiming the television set was talking to her.

One July evening, about four

weeks before the fatal outing she attempted to hang herself. Shortly before her death she told her parents that the hospital was ordering her discharge.

Judith Bryant, chief nursing officer for the Riverside Health Authority responsible for St Mary Abbots said last week: "The nature of the outing and its purpose was to test the independence of patients in fairly controlled circumstances and attempt to assess their ability to cope with that."

Inquest we will be looking carefully at the circumstances surrounding Angela Joly's death and at the recommendations made by the coroner. The relationship between adult psychiatric patients and the hospital has always been a difficult issue. The parents are not as close to the situation as they would like to be."

Mr and Mrs Joly are prevented from bringing a case for medical negligence because it would cost at least £25,000 and the waiting list for such cases is three or more years. "We do not want to blame or ruin individual careers, but it would have lessened our bitterness had the hospital admitted their failures," Mrs Joly said. "Surely the present unsatisfactory attitude to both patients and their supporting families will change so that common sense and compassion will prevail."

Miss Joly left a number of poems including this one: "If you were here I would hold you And let you find tranquility in my arms. Peace beyond understanding. Repose beyond by body. But with my heart And broken mind My dreams I give to you."

Letters, page 11

## Thames TV rethink on sex molester

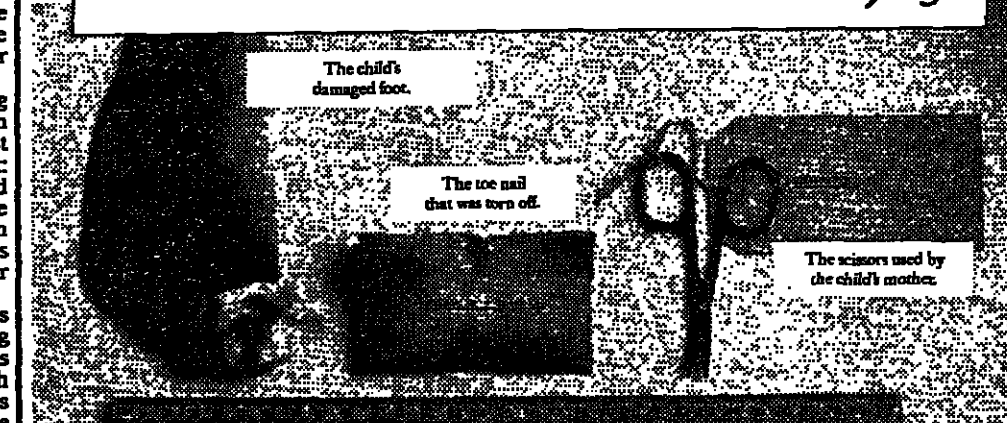
Thames Television may give the police a lead in any attempts to question an anonymous self-confessed child molester who appeared on TV Eye last Thursday.

The television company is keen to head off a dispute over its treatment of the interview and is likely to reconsider its decision not to name the man's psychiatrist.

Yesterday a Thames spokesman said: "We will not be obstructive. If the only way we can help the police is to give the name of the psychiatrist, obviously we may have to have a rethink."

No formal approach has been made to Thames by police, as yet. A Scotland Yard spokesman said yesterday that he believed officers had obtained a recording of the programme.

It wasn't the Gestapo in 1942. It was the child's mother in 1985.



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She did it with a pair of scissors. She did it in a town in England. And she did it recently.

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THE CASE QUOTED HERE IS A TRUE EXAMPLE. SOME DETAILS HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THE CHILD.



# Indonesia seeks peace in Cambodia through meeting with Vietnamese

From Paul Routledge, Singapore

Indonesia today launches a spirited bid to bring peace to war-torn Cambodia, almost seven years to the day since Vietnamese troops marched in.

Top officials of the Foreign Ministry in Jakarta are to have two days of exploratory negotiations with a high-ranking delegation from Hanoi, led by the deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Dy Nien.

It will be the first meeting of the Vietnam-Indonesia working group set up after months of tentative peace feelers put out to Hanoi by the Indonesians, the official "interlocutory" country of the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean).

Indonesia's Foreign Minister, Dr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, said the talks would focus on further steps towards solving the Cambodian conflict. The main thrust would be directed towards "ways of achieving reconciliation between the four Khmer groups".

These are the Heng Samrin administration installed in Phnom Penh after the Vietnamese ousted the Khmer Rouge regime of the infamous Pol Pot, and the three component groups of the Asean-inspired coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea: the forces of

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front headed by the former Cambodian prime minister, Mr Son Sann; and the Khmer Rouge, officially no longer under Pol Pot, who has "retired".

The Indonesian plan apparently envisages an "internal solution" among these groups so that the Vietnamese could withdraw their estimated 160,000 forces well before the scheduled deadline of 1990. There would then be elections designed to yield an independent regime that was not hostile either to Vietnam or to the Asean members.

Dr Mochtar has visited Bangkok and Singapore to reassure Asean members which have the greatest misgivings about confining the peace initiative to Khmer groups. An earlier version of this formula founded on Thai insistence that Vietnam must be involved directly because Hanoi is "the organ grinder" in Cambodia.

The two-day meeting in Jakarta, hosted by Mr Nana Sutrisna, director general of political affairs in the Indonesian Foreign Ministry, will examine prospects for a variation on Prince Sihanouk's idea of a "cocktail party" to bring together the warring parties.

But instead of bringing in China, the Soviet Union and Vietnam it would comprise only the Khmer groups. "What is a better format?" Dr Mochtar asked. Asean had been trying to find a solution for years "but has anybody asked what the Kampuchians themselves want. We have been thinking for them. It is high time we asked them to put their heads together and tell us what they want."

The "Khmer-only" format may prove attractive to Hanoi, as it lends some legitimacy to the Heng Samrin regime, which the Vietnamese insist must be recognized as the lawful government.

Politically, the Liberation Front is riven with factionalism. A splinter group led by elements who want greater co-operation with the Sihanoukists claims to have taken control, while keeping Mr Son Sann as figurehead president.

Against this uncertain background, Dr Mochtar said the Heng Samrin administration and Prince Sihanouk had indicated a readiness to attend the proposed informal peace conference, while Mr Son Sann seemed "inclined towards accepting". There has been no word from the elusive Khmer Rouge.

## González Nato line wins party support

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, has committed his Socialist Party militants to campaign for a "yes" in the Nato referendum promised for March.

His tough line came with the announcement that Lord Carlington, the Nato Secretary-General, will be in Madrid on January 2 and 3 for talks with the Government.

Responding to appeals from Señor González and five Cabinet colleagues for discipline, only 21 anti-Nato and left-wingers on the 162-member party federal committee at the weekend rejected the Government's line that Spanish interests are better defended by staying in Nato.

The majority has now to convince Spaniards who voted socialist at the 1982 general election on an anti-Nato platform that important policy change is correct.

Señor Pablo Castellano, who leads the anti-Nato rebels in the party, indicated yesterday, however, that while they will still "vote in conscience" in the referendum, they will neither take part in the pro-Nato campaign nor join the communists, pacifists and extra-parliamentary left while opposing it.

Señor Castellano told the Prime Minister that, by joining

one of the power blocs, Spain's socialist party was abandoning one of its basic tenets.

The real significance of the weekend meeting at which the party's new defence policy, called "peace and security", was debated for 10 hours, is in the decision earlier this month by the right-wing opposition, led by Señor Manuel Fraga, to tell its supporters to abstain in the Nato poll.

His hopes dashed for a national consensus with Señor Fraga on Nato, Señor González now alone faces the rank and file of his party and the electorate.

His supporters at the party meeting castigated the opposition for risking by their abstention, Spain's having to leave Nato if the referendum is lost.

Socialist leaders are gambling on their supporters and sympathizers, however disenchanted about Nato, shunning the vote and giving Señor González the blow of a lost referendum in what will in effect be a general election.

The voters could, however, make a protest vote over Nato and the way "their" Government has performed in office - and yet still return the Socialist Party at a general election.

## Crowds blame Madrid for Basque's death

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Crowds took to the streets of Pamplona and San Sebastian at the weekend, accusing Spain's Socialist Government of allowing police to torture detainees.

They were protesting against the death of a Basque, Señor Mikel Zabala, aged 32, who had been in police custody.

The crowd in Pamplona was estimated at 20,000, and the tens of thousands who paraded through San Sebastian on Saturday were said to represent the biggest turnout there for several years.

Señor Zabala's fiancée, giving the family's version, told demonstrators in both cities: "They tortured him to death in the civil guard barracks, and those of us who survived might

well have died too". She had been held in the barracks at the same time, but was later released without charge.

Señor Zabala's body, still handcuffed, was taken from a river near the French frontier on December 15, 19 days after he had been taken from his home.

The continuing force of the demonstrations in northern Spain shows that the Government has lost the struggle with public opinion.

The setback suffered by the Government over the Zabala case was recognized at the weekend by the Madrid delegate in the Basque region, Señor Ramon Jauregui, who reports to the Interior Ministry.

## Zia arrests martial law protesters

From Our Own Correspondent, Islamabad

Arrests of Pakistan opposition leaders in Lahore early yesterday has shown that President Zia's government has no intention of letting go of the reins even though the lifting of martial law is imminent.

While the capital and the political leadership of the country is waiting for the President's announcement, leaders in Lahore of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy have been planning a demonstration. The 11-party group of opponents of the regime planned the demonstration to coincide with the birthday of the Father of the Nation, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, which falls on Christmas Day.

The regime has reacted to the plans for demonstration no doubt partly also because President Zia plans to be in Lahore on Christmas Day for his son's wedding. For this reason too, the suggestion that he would lift martial law on that day has been discounted.

A number of the movement's leaders, suspecting there would be counter action by the Government have taken the precaution of not staying in their homes, and have been able to avoid arrest. By last night, 31 arrests were reported. According to a spokesman for the Pakistan People's Party, the biggest group in the movement, the demonstration will still go ahead.

Individual parties supporting it are planning to march on the Mochi gate in the wall round the old city of Lahore, each coming from a different direction. The regime was taken by surprise by a similar demonstration earlier this year, when as many as 50,000 protesters gathered for a noisy meeting condemning it.

Last night, Air Marshal Asghar Khan, the leader of the Tehrik-i-Islami party, condemned the arrests. "It clearly seems that there has been no change in the attitude of the Government towards civil liberties and fundamental rights, and even after the lifting of martial law the civil government is likely to continue with the present policy of suppression of civil liberties," he said.

The setback suffered by the Government over the Zabala case was recognized at the weekend by the Madrid delegate in the Basque region, Señor Ramon Jauregui, who reports to the Interior Ministry.

## Colombia envoy recalled from Nicaragua

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

Colombia recalled its ambassador to Nicaragua at the weekend for "urgent consultations" as relations between the two countries reached a crisis point.

Charges of Sandinista involvement in the Palace of Justice siege in Bogotá last month mounted as three former Colombian foreign ministers urged President Betancur to break off diplomatic relations with Managua if Nicaragua continued its involvement in the conflict.

Such action would deal a devastating blow to the Central American peace initiatives of the Contadora group, which Colombia forms with Mexico, Venezuela and Panama.

Colombia's Ambassador in Managua, Señor Abelardo Duarte Sotelo, was recalled to Bogotá on Saturday. This was followed by reports that the Sandinista Government was recalling its ambassador, Señor Francisco Quiñones, but later a spokesman at the Nicaraguan Embassy said he was still in Bogotá.

Earlier, Señor Quiñones had described charges of Nicaraguan involvement in the siege as slanderous.

## Military team to monitor Ugandan ceasefire

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Tanzania and Kenya are sending a small military reconnaissance team to Uganda this week to prepare to monitor the ceasefire between the Ugandan army and the National Resistance Army (NRA) guerrillas. It will also monitor the disarming (and eventual demobilization) of a large part of the armed forces.

Five Kenya Army officers who arrived in Kampala at the weekend, are to be followed by a team from Tanzania. The agreement between the ruling Military Council and the NRA provides for these moves, and there were consultations at the weekend between the president of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

Uganda has as its two neighbours, plus Canada and Britain, to help by monitoring the ceasefire and the formation of a new and better-trained army.

Britain declined to join the monitoring, but is ready to help with training, and with the advice to the Military Council. Major-General Tony Pollard, former commander of the School of Infantry at Warminster, has been here for several weeks preparing to lead the training operation.

The peace agreement signed last Tuesday provides for an immediate ceasefire, to end the fighting between the Ugandan army and the NRA. It appears that the ceasefire has been largely effective, but Ugandan army soldiers have been looting and killing in the Kampala area.

Kampala is due to be demilitarized, with all troops moved out of the city.

The Military Council chairman, General Tito Okello, is addressing public rallies in eastern and northern Uganda, urging people to support the peace agreement.

Mr Yoweri Museveni, the NRA leader, left Nairobi last week to return to south-west Uganda, where most of his forces are located. He has made no move to go to Kampala, and has not been seen there since early 1981, when he went underground to lead a campaign to overthrow the Obote Government (which was toppled in a military coup in July). Uganda has appointed Mr Henry Kayondo, a lawyer, as Ugandan High Commissioner to London, replacing Mr Shafiq Arain, a Ugandan-born Asian and supporter of ex-president Obote, who resigned after Dr Obote's overthrow.

# Life of struggle for Winnie Mandela

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

It is a marriage custom among the Xhosa people to whom Mrs Winnie Mandela and her imprisoned husband, Nelson, belong that the wedding cake should be cut at the bridegroom's home in the presence of his elders.

Although they were married in 1958, when she was 24 and he 40, they never found time to observe the custom before Mr Mandela was imprisoned in 1962 for five years for incitement and leaving the country illegally. While serving his term, he was tried again, convicted of sabotage and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mrs Mandela still has the cake awaiting her husband's release. It will probably have to wait a while longer. "Miraculously, perhaps symbolically, it

has never crumbled away," she says.

A woman of formidable spirit and striking beauty, with an infectious laugh that punctuates her conversation, Winnie Nomzamo (meaning in Xhosa "She who strives") Mandela has become a black nationalist leader in her own right.

The daughter of a teacher, she was born in Bizana, in Pondoland, and in her late teens became South Africa's first trained black medical social worker at Baragwanath hospital in Soweto, the sprawling African township outside Johannesburg.

She had been married to Mr Mandela, already a member of the executive of the then still legal African National Congress (ANC), only three months when she was arrested for her part in demonstrations

against the pass laws which severely restrict the movements of blacks.

Mrs Mandela was on the executive of the ANC's women's league, and also chaired the ANC's branch in Orlando, the district of Soweto in which her family lives, until 1960 when the organization was banned.

Her first arrest began a series of detentions, bannings and harassment by the authorities, coupled with the difficulties of bringing up a young family without their father.

In 1959 she was charged under the Terrorism Act and found not guilty on appeal, but in 1962 she was "banned" under the Suppression of Communism Act. This restricted her to Orlando, and forced her to give up her job as a social worker. More stringent

banning orders were served on her in 1965 and 1966.

In 1967 she was charged on two occasions for contravening her banning order, and sentenced to 12 months in prison, all but four days of which were suspended. In 1969 she was detained under the Terrorism Act and held in solitary confinement for 17 months.

On being released from jail, she was immediately served with a new banning order which included house arrest. She repeatedly violated the order, and in 1974 was punished with a six-month jail sentence.

Her banning was lifted in 1975, but she was detained again from August to December of the following year, the year of the Soweto riots. In 1977 the Black Parents' Association, which she had helped found and which tried to provide legal

medical assistance to victims of police action, was banned.

At the end of 1976 she had been served with yet another banning order, which was changed in 1977 to one of banishment. She was forced to leave her Soweto home and live in a three-room house in a primitive African "location" outside Brandfort in the Orange Free State.

In August of this year, her Brandfort home was burnt down by still unapprehended assailants. Since early November she had been defying a police order to return to the home.

In early December she made a dramatic appearance at an open-air funeral in Mandelob, a black township outside Pretoria, for victims of police shootings. The police still took no action against her.

## Pretoria accused of Lesotho murders

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The African National Congress has accused Pretoria of murdering six of its members and three Lesotho nationals in the attack on two houses in Maseru, the Lesotho capital, on Friday.

The killings, according to the ANC statement issued on Saturday in Lusaka, Zambia, were the work of "a death squad of the Pretoria regime." The South African Army and police continue to deny responsibility.

Late on Friday a man calling himself Mophete Mophete, and claiming to be commander-in-chief of the Lesotho National Liberation Army, telephoned the South African Press Association to say that a unit of his organization had carried out the attack.

The ANC maintains that this claim is of "no relevance to the issue of the identity of the culprit" since the organization "is a mercenary formation within the South African Defence Force."

It is widely believed to operate from South African soil and is linked to underground political opponents of Lesotho's autocratic Prime Minister, Chief Leaboa Jonathan, who has ruled without elections since 1970.

Despite Pretoria's denials of involvement in the Maseru raid, it appears to be the only realistic culprit. The killings were ruthless and professional and did not have the hallmark of the ragamuffin Lesotho National Liberation Army.

● LUANDA: An Angolan Army officer said on Friday that 4,000 South African troops had entered Southern Angola and that another 4,000 were concentrated across the border (NYT reports).

Backed by armoured cars and helicopters, the South African forces started occupying a 20-mile strip of Southern Angola on December 2 and reached their present troop level on Wednesday, the officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Roberto Ngongo, deputy chief of staff of Angola's armed forces, said in an interview.

Individual parties supporting it are planning to march on the Mochi gate in the wall round the old city of Lahore, each coming from a different direction. The regime was taken by surprise by a similar demonstration earlier this year, when as many as 50,000 protesters gathered for a noisy meeting condemning it.

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Uganda has appointed Mr Henry Kayondo, a lawyer, as Ugandan High Commissioner to London, replacing Mr Shafiq Arain, a Ugandan-born Asian and supporter of ex-president Obote, who resigned after Dr Obote's overthrow.

From the historical and astronomical evidence available, the most likely date for Christ's birth was somewhere between August 24 and Sep-



Ringo Starr, the former Beatle, and his wife Barbara taking a break from play in the fourth world elephant polo championships in Nepal.

## Fifth chess challenge game drawn

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The fifth game of the Kasparov-Tinman chess challenge match in Hilversum, Holland, was drawn.

In an apparently level situation, Tinman, the top Western grandmaster, had obtained pressure as compensation for a pawn.

But Kasparov surprisingly sacrificed his rook for a White bishop.

After five games in the six-game series, Kasparov leads by three points to two. White Tinman. Black Kasparov.

Roy Lopez opening  
1 P44 P44 2 B403 G23  
3 B15 P43 4 B1 P43  
5 B1 P43 6 B1 P43  
7 B1 P43 8 B1 P43  
9 B1 P43 10 B1 P43  
11 B1 P43 12 B1 P43  
13 B1 P43 14 B1 P43  
15 B1 P43 16 B1 P43  
17 B1 P43 18 B1 P43  
19 B1 P43 20 B1 P43  
21 B1 P43 22 B1 P43  
23 B1 P43 24 B1 P43  
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27 B1 P43 28 B1 P43  
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33 B1 P43 34 B1 P43  
35 B1 P43 36 B1 P43  
37 B1 P43 38 B1 P43  
39 B1 P43 40 B1 P43  
41 B1 P43 42 B1 P43  
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47 B1 P43 48 B1 P43  
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51 B1 P43 52 B1 P43  
53 B1 P43 54 B1 P43  
55 B1 P43 56 B1 P43  
57 B1 P43 58 B1 P43  
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63 B1 P43 64 B1 P43  
65 B1 P43 66 B1 P43  
67 B1 P43 68 B1 P43  
69 B1 P43 70 B1 P43  
71 B1 P43 72 B1 P43  
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89 B1 P43 90 B1 P43  
91 B1 P43 92 B1 P43  
93 B1 P43 94 B1 P43  
95 B1 P43 96 B1 P43  
97 B1 P43 98 B1 P43  
99 B1 P43 100 B1 P43

Draw agreed.

Mr Dawit had variously been reported in New York, New Jersey, and in Orange, New Jersey, where he was said to be an official with the Ethiopian Mission to the United Nations, was said to live.

"I am now on vacation he said, and I am in touch with the Ethiopian Mission to the United Nations. I have not requested political asylum."

Research begins, naturally enough, with the New Testament version of the first Christmas, which is mentioned only in the Gospels of St Matthew and St Luke.

St Matthew (Chapter 2, verse 1) fixes it as during the reign of Herod. St Luke says it was at a time when Caesar Augustus ruled in Rome and called for all the world to be taxed, and when Cyrenus was governor in Syria (Chapter 2, verses 1 and 2).

According to the nearest thing to a contemporary account, by Josephus, the Jewish historian writing towards the end of the first century AD, Herod died in what we call 4 BC. The only well-known census and taxing organized by Cyrenus, however, was in 6 AD. The two dates do not coincide.

It is here that Mr Fleming has re-read carefully the relevant verse in St Luke and

## Israel swallows its pride to mollify US

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The United States appears to have forgiven Israel for the spying incident involving a US Navy intelligence analyst, but good relations between the two have been restored only at considerable cost to Israeli pride.

Newspapers yesterday revealed smouldering resentment at the outcome of the affair, which ended only when Israel allowed its intelligence officers to be interrogated, handed back documents, and agreed to disband the unit responsible.

A long statement from the US Senate Department on Friday made clear that Israel accepted that the inquiry should be reopened if further evidence was needed to try Mr Jonathan Pollard, the analyst accused of spying.

The facts were kept secret or censored heavily when the press tried to go into the subject. However, the Israeli version of why it employed Mr Pollard is now being leaked carefully.

According to this, he contacted the Israeli Embassy in Washington saying he was appointed as a contact to supply information. That information was first about Arab forces, the kind of material Israel expects under information exchange agreements with the US.

But Mr Pollard is said to have started charging for information about Israel's defence. This appeared to be based on material which could have been given to America only by an

authorized Israeli source. Mr Pollard was thus kept on the payroll in an attempt to discover who was leaking secret Israeli information to the US.

True or not, the story is part of a scenario being presented to show that Israel was neither as bad nor as stupid as American statements indicate. America

Another spy scandal, the eleventh this year, has raised serious doubts about the security of secret sessions in the House of Representatives. (Christopher Thomas writes from Washington.)

Randy Jeffries, aged 26, a former FBI clerk, now a messenger for a company that transcribes secret sessions in the House, has been charged with spying for the Soviet Union. He will appear in court in Washington today.

has in turn been widely accused of spying on Israel, and of an even more serious offence: a correspondent of the Jerusalem Post said yesterday that Israeli developments on American weapons were now being supplied by the US in export orders to Arab countries.

All this is part of a growing Israeli worry about its heavy dependence on Washington. Without American aid, Israel is running at \$3 billion (22 billion) a year; the budget cannot balance. Without sophisticated American weapons the armed forces would quickly lose their edge over the Arabs.

## Air Force bomb plot alleged in Nigeria

Lagos (Reuters) - The plotters of a coup failed last week planned to kill Nigeria's military leader, General Ibrahim Babangida, with a bomb planted on his plane, the independent newspaper Tribune reported.

The paper said the plotters had enlisted the support of senior Air Force officers to plant the bomb. Other targets were Commodore Ebitu Uliwue, Nigeria's number two man, and General Sani Abacha, the Army chief.

The alleged ringleader, Mr Stanley Esser of The Netherlands, was picked up in Amsterdam with a Pakistani, Mr Abdul Wali, said to be his associate. Mr Esser's lawyer, Mr Martien Roeffen, and a Lebanese doctor, Mr Ahmad Saleh el-Ahmar, were arrested in a Newark bar on Friday.

## US says drugs ring smashed

Newark, New Jersey (AFP) - The US Justice Department said it had cracked a multi-million-dollar drug trafficking network, arresting four people in the US and The Netherlands, including a man who described himself to narcotics agents as the world's biggest hashish dealer.

The alleged ringleader, Mr Stanley Esser of The Netherlands, was picked up in Amsterdam with a Pakistani, Mr Abdul Wali, said to be his associate. Mr Esser's lawyer, Mr Martien Roeffen, and a Lebanese doctor, Mr Ahmad Saleh el-Ahmar, were arrested in a Newark bar on Friday.

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## Soviet stowaway

Paris (AP) - A 30-year-old Russian said he spent 10 days without food or water in a wooden crate in a Soviet cargo ship before swimming ashore to seek asylum when the ship docked in Rouen.

## Treasure bared

Salonica, Greece (Reuters) - Thousands of people queued to see gold, silverware and myth that Orthodox Christians believe to be the first gifts received by the baby Jesus which went on display here for the first time in 432 years.

## Epidemic toll

Delhi (AFP) - More than 200 people have died in Madras in an epidemic of a rare water-borne disease that broke out after flash floods last month, the Press Trust of India said.

## Spying arrest

Karlsruhe, West Germany (Reuters) - A self-employed West German businessman has been arrested on suspicion of spying for Germany's Federal Prosecutor's Office said. No more details were given.

## Dhaka strike

Dhaka (Reuters) - More than 40,000 doctors, engineers and agricultural experts began an indefinite strike in Bangladesh for better pay and higher status.



## Russia seeks a political settlement to lift millstone of Afghanistan

By Nicholas Ashford,  
Diplomatic Correspondent

The fighting goes on, but neither the Soviet-backed regime in Kabul nor the swelling ranks of resistance forces appears to be gaining any significant military advantage.

The talks go on, too, but progress has been painfully slow and now seems deadlocked over the crucial issue of how negotiations on a Soviet withdrawal should be conducted.

All the while, the body counts on both sides continue to spiral upwards, although not as fast as civilian casualties.

The situation is not entirely static, however. The Russians have begun dropping heavy bombs, notably during the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Geneva, that they wish to see a political settlement of the Afghan crisis.

Several factors have contributed to this apparent shift in Moscow. The first is that despite the deployment of more than 115,000 men, including some of its best troops, the Soviet Union has been unable to pacify the country. Like the British before them, they are finding out the hard way that Afghanistan is unconquerable.

Nor have the Russians succeeded in getting their Afghan allies to expand their authority within the country.

The Afghan Army is in a shambles and has lost half of its original 80,000 manpower through casualties or defections. Attempts by the Babrak Karmal regime to extend its political

On Christmas Eve 1979 heavy transport planes from the Soviet Union carrying 5,000 troops rumbled into Kabul airport, heralding the start of the occupation of Afghanistan. Three days later, the KGB assassinated President Hafizullah Amin, but his replacement by Babrak Karmal served only to intensify the fierce anti-communist resistance of thousands of *mujahideen* guerrilla fighters. Six years on, there is little sign of an end to the brutal conflict.

hold on the country by convening a plethora of tribal *jirgas* (councils) do not appear to have had much success.

Internationally, the stigma of being involved in what is widely perceived as a war of repression is beginning to hurt. Last month the United Nations General Assembly voted by 122 to 19 with 12 abstentions for a resolution calling for a withdrawal of foreign troops. It was the largest-ever vote against the Soviet presence in Afghanistan.

Several other organizations, among them the Commonwealth and the Non-Aligned Movement, have called on Soviet Union to remove its forces as part of a political settlement.

It is the question of a troop withdrawal which has dogged the UN-sponsored "proximity" talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan in Geneva, the sixth round of which ended last week.

The talks have produced broad agreement on three issues - a bilateral accord on non-interference (which means that Pakistan would agree to stop support reaching Afghan resistance forces on the border

between the two countries); international guarantees to oversee a settlement; and the voluntary return of three million Afghan refugees from Pakistan.

However, the Afghan regime is insisting that the fourth (and key) issue - a Soviet withdrawal - can only be resolved by direct talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Islamabad, which wants Kabul to present a clear timetable for the withdrawal, says Afghanistan wants direct talks only to win international recognition.

Whether the deadlock can be broken at the next round of talks in the spring remains to be seen. Although it is increasingly apparent that Moscow would like to rid itself of its Afghan millstone it will, in the view of Western analysts, only agree to pull out if it can be sure it will leave behind a friendly and stable government in Kabul.

Given the traditional volatility of Afghan politics and the bitterness which six years of Soviet occupation had evoked, it is hard to see how Moscow's concerns could be satisfied.

## Soviet casualties mount as rebel defiance grows

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The war in Afghanistan has been "Gorbachevized", according to Western observers, but despite this process, the Russians occupation force is having no greater success against the *Mujahidin* rebels.

Western diplomats reporting in Delhi have identified the hand of the new Russian leadership in a more wholehearted commitment to the fighting, expressed in a willingness to take increased risks, and a more straightforward control of the strategy and tactics of the war from Moscow. At the same time the increased supply of men and more sophisticated weapons to the rebels has

negated both these advantages. The new commitment and the increased risks have resulted in growing Soviet casualties, and the simplifying of the lines of command. But it has brought increased war material and more significant set-piece operations, it has not fired any better than when control was carried out via the Soviet HQ in Tashkent, and a visit twice a year from the Defence Ministry in Moscow.

As the anniversary of the Soviet invasion arrives, the occupying troops are still having difficulty maintaining the policy they set themselves at the start of the rebel campaign, which was to hold on to the cities and to maintain control of the main roads, letting the countryside look after itself.

Western diplomats indicate that control of the towns is still as tenuous as ever, and that many of the main roads are still regularly cut. Reports this week from Afghanistan show, for example, that the Kandahar to Kabul road was cut several times by guerrillas, despite a pincer movement of Soviet and Afghan troops along it trying to clear the rebels away. The key

supply route from the Soviet border via the Salang tunnel is regularly interrupted by raids, mostly on convoys carrying fuel, both paraffin and bottled gas, which have resulted in an acute shortage in the capital.

In the western town of Herat, which began the year calmly enough, travellers say that as many as 70 per cent of the buildings have been destroyed. As the campaigning season

opened with the return of summer weather heavy fighting took place at night. By the middle of the year the Governor's office had been captured in a daylight raid, and three delegates to the high tribal *jirga* in Kabul were killed.

The Russians countered by flattening the outlying villages, to give themselves a free field of fire, to prevent the inhabitants leaving, and to destroy any cover for approaching guerrillas. In August the Russians encircled the city, which had been virtually in the hands of the rebels, and serious fighting began as the *Mujahidin* withdrew. Reports suggested that more than 70 Afghan soldiers were killed at this time.

But, in spite of this, the town continues to be plagued with *Mujahidin* attacks. A daytime curfew was imposed by the Russians in November, and confrontations between the

opposing forces have caused heavy casualties among both the guerrillas and the Afghan armed forces.

In Kabul similarly, a major offensive aimed at preventing access to the city from the south and west by the guerrillas was put into operation in the autumn in the Paghman Valley. Diplomats were able to observe some of the fighting at first hand as they went out to the golf course in the west of the city on their Friday outings.

Nevertheless, the guerrilla attacks within the city have continued. This month a number of bombs have gone off at public buildings including the airport and the Polytechnic University. This and other attacks at the airport have raised some fears for the safety of young Britons flying out to India by the cheapest route, which involves a stop at Kabul. The route is particularly popular among Sikhs because there is a direct link to Amritsar in Punjab.

The supply routes carrying men and weapons from neighbouring Pakistan were the target of a direct assault by the Russians during the year with major campaigns to clear the Kunar Valley and the area around the border town of Khost. These campaigns were highly successful for a time, but eventually the Soviet columns withdrew, leaving the situation much as it had been to begin with.

The continued supply of sophisticated weapons including surface to air missiles has meant that the Soviet mastery of the air has not gone unchallenged in recent battles. Helicopter downings which have been freely claimed by the *Mujahidin* in the past have now been attested to by many more independently reliable sources.



Clouds of black smoke darken the sky as a fireman sprays foam on the fire.

## Naples oil fire still blazing

Naples (AP, AFP) - Smoke blotted out the sun over Naples yesterday as fires continued in an oil storage depot where an explosion killed four people and injured 250, 18 of them critically.

More than 700 firefighters worked through the night to subside the fire that sent out clouds of black smoke for a second day, forcing some 2,000 people to leave their homes. Officials said most managed to find shelter for the night with relatives or at hotels arranged

by emergency workers. The fire that engulfed two dozen large oil storage tanks was pronounced under control yesterday by the Ministry of Civil Protection, which is co-ordinating efforts at the scene.

"But the fire is continuing, feeding on the fuel", a spokesman said. The authorities deny that the huge clouds of black smoke could have a harmful effect on local inhabitants or on the environment: "the atmospheric conditions are favourable, and

our experts are adamant that the smoke is not a health risk". The cause of the explosion is still not known. Several witnesses have said there was a very strong smell of petrol shortly before the dawn explosion.

Engineers at the depot argued on technical grounds that the fire must have been started deliberately. But another theory is that safety regulations could have been breached while oil was being unloaded from a tanker.

## California offers foetal blood scan

From Ivor Davis  
Los Angeles

A genetic screening programme, the first of its kind in the United States, will offer pregnant women in California a blood test to detect any serious defect in the foetus.

The programme will start next month and requires obstetricians and pregnancy clinics to provide patients with a brochure, printed in several languages, to persuade them to take the test.

The brochure will advise women found to be carrying malformed foetuses on where to go for abortions, or special medical treatment if they wish to continue the pregnancy. All expectant mothers will be asked to sign a statement agreeing to take the test.

Genetic screening programmes have raised social and political controversy because the choice of aborting malformed foetuses is implicit.

There is also scientific controversy because the blood test is not always accurate. The test will be offered to women seen in the first 2 weeks of pregnancy. Health officials expect that it will prove negative in about 95 per cent of cases.

● MINNEAPOLIS: Mrs Mary Lund, aged 40, the first woman given an artificial heart, was in critical but stable condition here. Doctors gave her a 50-50 chance of living, since the pump was "functioning very well". A Jarvik-7 model was implanted on Wednesday to serve until a human heart becomes available.

## Reagan retreats after Shultz lie test threat

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan has curtailed sharply his order for widespread lie detector tests on Government employees after blunt objections by Mr George Shultz, his Secretary of State.

After meeting Mr Shultz, who had threatened to resign if he had to take a polygraph test, Mr Reagan authorized a White House statement saying that the tests would be required only as "a limited though sometimes useful tool when used in conjunction with other investi-

gative and security procedures in espionage cases". That is a clear retreat from the original intention of his order which authorized examinations of "all individuals" with access to highly classified information whether or not they were suspected of spying.

Administration officials said that in practise Cabinet members now would have discretion about whether to approve the tests on individuals in their departments.

## Zimbabwe police chief given bail

From Jan Raath  
Harare

Zimbabwe's Commissioner of Police, Mr Windzayi Nguvuru, and a deputy commissioner Mr Govani Mhora, who were dismissed for corruption last week, have appeared before magistrates here and released on bail.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, said on Thursday that the two had been dismissed in view of the findings of a commission of inquiry whose report would show "the depth of immorality" to which they had sunk. They were arrested within hours.

Charges they will face include theft from police custody of 60,000 tablets of the soporific drug Mandrax, worth £50,000.

Neither man was charged formally. But their lawyer said that they would plead guilty. They will face eight joint charges and Mr Nguvuru a further eight.

One charge of interfering in police investigation implicates the former Zimbabwe High Commissioner to London Mr Robert Zvinoira, who was at the centre of a scandal over his purchase of an exorbitantly expensive official residence without authorization. Mr Zvinoira was found guilty of foreign currency offences after his return to Harare.

It is alleged that Mr Mhora and Mr Nguvuru improperly ordered Mr Zvinoira's release from jail after he had been arrested for failing to meet bail conditions.

Mr Nguvuru will be charged with criminal injury for having allegedly ordered an office worker to remove her briefs, his own regulation khaki shorts to his knees, "the complainant, in anger and shame, ran out of his office, shouting," the senior public prosecutor Mr Augustine Chikunira, said.

## Confusion after Ji visit Hong Kong dilemma over impetus towards democracy

From David Bonavia, Hong Kong

Mr Ji Pengfei, a senior Chinese statesman, has created more confusion than confidence following his 12-day visit to Hong Kong.

Mr Ji, head of the Peking Office for Hong Kong and Macao Affairs, leaves behind a near-vacuum for British policy making in Hong Kong over the next 11 years.

The words "lame duck" are being used increasingly to describe the position of the British-dominated government.

The former Chinese Foreign Minister made clear during his visit that in Chinese eyes the British do not have the right to set up democratic institutions of internal home rule which will survive the transfer of sovereignty in 1997.

This leaves the Hong Kong Government and Britain in a quandary about whether they should continue or halt the process of democratization of the territory's legislature through indirect, and later direct elections.

Mr Ji, the most senior Chinese communist leader to make an official visit to Hong Kong, spent most of his time sightseeing and attending receptions.

The Chinese position is that negotiations over Hong Kong's future should be conducted exclusively between China and Britain, with the territory's people being allowed to voice their views only informally.

He offended unofficial and elected members of the Executive and Legislative Councils by refusing to meet them formally as a group representing the aspirations of the people of Hong Kong. And he drew strong criticism from the local media for refusing to hold a live press conference.

At a press conference last Saturday Mr Ji answered only five questions, which had been submitted two days in advance, and refused to respond to supplementary questions.

He emphasized that the basic law for the future Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China would determine the shape of political institutions after 1997. This law is being drafted in Peking with only a relatively small number of Hong Kong public figures taking any part in the work of the drafting committee.

Hong Kong's right to interpret the basic law would be discussed after it was enacted. The Peking Government has no "concrete design, blueprint or fixed preconception".

Mr Ji concluded: "after 1997 the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will still maintain its freedom of speech, publications and press, and on the premise of abiding by and not violating Special Administrative Region laws, various kinds of media and publishing organizations can engage freely in their work and activities."

## MPs criticized for failing colony

By Donald Macintyre

A strong attack on some British politicians for having failed to consider the insecurities of the Hong Kong community has been made by Mr Jimmy McGregor, director of the colony's General Chamber of Commerce.

He said it was "idiotic" of Mr Robert Adley, a Conservative MP and chairman of the Sino-British Parliamentary Committee, to claim that concern was being whipped up by a "few people" trying to poison the atmosphere.

He said there had been widespread disappointment that Lord Young of Gramham, Secretary of State for Employment, who was the guest of the Chamber at a lunch last Wednesday, had not looked at the political problems in his speech, which praised the colony's economic system as an example to Britain.

Mr McGregor defended Emily Lau, the *Far Eastern*

*Economic Review* Hong Kong correspondent, who has been pressing for democratic reforms in Hong Kong and was named specifically in Mr Adley's attack last week.

Mr McGregor, who has lived in the colony for 35 years and whose wife is Chinese, said Lau was a highly qualified investigative journalist. "For a senior MP like Mr Adley to come here and make such daft statements is really beyond the pale."

Mr McGregor, who is widely respected as a community spokesman in Hong Kong and was formerly a high-ranking official of the colonial government, made clear that he had some personal sympathy for the case being advocated by Mr Martin Lee, QC, a prominent Hong Kong barrister, and others, for 25 per cent of seats to the Legislative Council to be elected directly as a means of preserving Hong Kong's way of life.

## Smell beats fir thieves

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The Swiss saying that Christmas trees straight from the forest are so much greener and sweeter is being disproved with malicious pleasure by foresters.

An ecologically harmless chemical product used to spray young firs to prevent deer nibbling tender sprouts has a nauseating odour resembling canine excreta if exposed to indoor temperatures.

So after decades of losing prime firs, from five to 15 years old, felled by chop-and-run motorists, the foresters this year have sprayed it all over young trees near roads and tracks.

Even if selecting a tree from the forest remains something of a tradition in Switzerland, it has to be done with stealth and speed. Anyone doing it repeatedly risks a £1,600 fine.



Afghan rebels in action against Soviet supported government troops.

## Dishonour ends career of sumo official

Tokyo - Japan's national sport, sumo wrestling, is reeling from a scandal with its hallowed administrative system (David Watts writes). For the first time in its modern history a sumo stable-master has been forced to resign because of misconduct. Wajima, aged 37, a former grand champion, sat cross-legged at the weekend with his head bowed before the wrestlers of his stable, to apologize for dishonouring the name of sumo as his resignation was accepted by the Japan Sumo Association. Sumo contains many elements of Japanese spiritual belief. Wajima has undermined the image of a sport unsullied by the commercial world, by taking large loans.

## Law student triumphs in Assam poll

Gauhati (AP) - A law student was elected yesterday as leader of the new state Government in Assam, headed by a regional party that routed Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party in special elections.

Mr Prafulla Kumar Mahanta, who is 32, and is likely to be sworn in as chief minister today or tomorrow, will be the first student head of an Indian state government.

He was chosen unanimously to head the new administration at a meeting of the Assam Gana Parishad (Assam People's Council). The 65 newly-elected state Deputies met at a government guest house in Gauhati, Assam's main city.

Mr Mahanta, a bearded law student at Gauhati University, led a six-year protest demanding the expulsion of more than a

million Bengali-speaking Bangladeshi immigrants. Assamese complain that the refugee influx threatens to swamp them culturally and economically.

The elections in Assam followed a peace accord between Mr Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, and anti-alien agitators led by Mr Mahanta, who was formerly president of the All-Assam Students Union.

The settlement calls for a 10-year disenfranchisement of settlers who entered Assam illegally between 1966 and 1971 and expulsion of those who came after the 1971 Bangladesh war of independence.

Nearly all of the senior Parishad leaders are young men, many of them still students in the oil-rich state of 22 million people in north-western India.

Mr Mahanta earlier said that expulsion of aliens would be a top priority of the new state government.

The elections ended nearly three years of rule in Assam by the Congress Party, which was installed after state elections in 1983 boycotted by most Assamese Hindus. According to Government figures more than 3,600 people were killed in election-related violence.

According to the final returns, the Parishad won 63 of the 125 state Assembly seats and seven of the 14 national parliamentary constituencies. It also has the support in the new legislature of three independent Congress, which won 90 of the 108 Assembly seats in 1983, won in only 25 districts. It also took four parliamentary seats.

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# THE ARTS

At 85, Geoffrey Household remains a masterful writer of thrillers, as his new *Arrows of Desire* testifies: interview by Caroline Moorehead

## Picaresque adventurer

What is it, precisely, that Geoffrey Household writes? Not thrillers, he hates the word. "Entertainments," he says, would be acceptable, "except that, there you are, Graham Greene has pinched it." Household, when he can, settles for the picaresque. "Take a man... a woman too is useful, though I think it's a bit unfair, put him in a tight spot with enemies and watch him win through. If it works properly you can't put it down. It lends itself to beauty."

Household has just celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday with the publication of another decidedly picaresque novel, *Arrows of Desire*, and the reissuing of two of his most admired books, *A Rough Shoot* and *Watcher in the Shadows*. Even he has trouble labelling these. When I went to see him he had a typed sheet of paper waiting for me. On it, neatly divided into Novels, Picaresque and Adventures, were the titles of 21 books. *A Rough Shoot* and *Watcher in the Shadows* were under Adventures. What then is an Adventure?

"Well, the difference between me and a deliberate thriller writer is that he works out a plot, while my hero moves from adventure to adventure. When I sit down and start all I know is the beginning and the end. If you must have it, I suppose they are thrillers, but done my way. And how is that different from the Picaresque? "All my adventures are slightly picaresque, but the absolutely pure ones are *Fellow Passenger* and *The Lives and Times of Bernardo Brown*, in which men are suspected of doing something they haven't done."

So where does the novel fit? "That's a simple human story, with action, but no violence necessarily. It's not deliberately meant to excite. A novel is a novel; it can be written by anyone." Ten minutes of courteous and charming explanations left me just as baffled. All that he said with certainty is that Household himself greatly prefers what he calls Picaresque, men in false positions or tight spots, that he admires *Don Quixote*

and Fielding and Defoe, but not the books of Ambler and Forsyth, which bore him, but that as a writer "knowing I've got to eat and that picaresque isn't very popular, I have to be careful".

Three months ago Household and his wife Ilona moved from Aylesbury, where they had spent the last 30 years in a farmhouse, to a small, thatched cottage in a village near the Cotswolds. The thatch, curiously, formed like a deep brown crust with a bump, makes the house look like a loaf of bread; at the back, the Households have added a new sitting-room overlooking what will be a fine garden and herbaceous border, once spring comes and Household can resume the pottering in the garden which has always broken up his working days.

He is writing a volume of short stories. "In pencil I drive a sort of pilot tunnel through the underground darkness of the imagination," he once wrote. His method remains the same: two to three hours in the morning with his pencil, rewriting and typing up for a couple of hours in the late afternoon, "the rest of the time sitting around, wondering what I'm going to write next". That is, until the dreaded 50-page mark is passed and the book has taken off, then "it's six hours a day and enjoying it, really enjoying it".

Household is whiskery and tweedy, with soft white hair and a small moustache, considerably more affable than his austere heroes, he has blue eyes that are both pale and bright and the pleased smile of someone who has fun.

His life breaks in two parts: the first 45 years, from birth in Gloucestershire, son of the Director of Education, to the end of the Second World War, are of movement; the next 40, of writing when, "extremely pleased to be home at last", he settled with his wife and three children to an existence he says is possibly lonely, but that he is by nature rather lonely. An unsuccessful schoolboy, noted only for his verse, he became an able

undergraduate at Oxford and emerged with a First in English Literature but with a strong feeling that in being too young for the 1914-1918 war he had missed something. The literary life appeared dull to him. So, when a friend found him a job with the management of the Bank of Romania, he took the Orient Express to Bucharest, where he discovered that his "rock solid pounds" bought him the best lunch in Europe for the equivalent of half-a-crown and where he soon felt as if he were turning into P. G. Wodehouse's Bertie Wooster.

Now came years that might have been lived by any Household hero and indeed were, since so many are men of his own world. From Bucharest he joined Elders and Fyffes, importers of bananas into Europe; for them he went to Spain with instructions to make the Spaniards eat their own Canary bananas and stop competing for the European markets. (He came back with an enduring feeling for classlessness, something he maintains only the Spaniards truly understand.)

America came next and work for a children's encyclopedia, before the best years of all, selling printing inks for John Kidd throughout Europe and South America. "I liked the people I met. I liked the stuff I was selling. There were moments of immense pleasure, mucking around." Household's war was in the same vein: attached first to the secret Military Mission to Romania, later to Field Security in Cairo and Greece. It made up for missing the First World War.

Where did all this leave him? "I have reached, in my profession, only a rank equivalent to a wartime major general," he wrote in his autobiography, *Against the Wind*. "Among that is, the first two hundred, any of whom may as easily be retired to discomfort as advanced to higher authority." The war over, higher authority could have taken either form, for his work in intelligence had been valued, while two pre-war books, *The Third Hour* and *The Salvation of Pisco Gabar*, had been extremely successful.



Photograph of Geoffrey Household by Sarah Karada

The reception of *Rogue Male*, published as war broke out, was uncertain, despite a much praised film, *Manhunt*, with Walter Pidgeon. Household, feeling European but longing for the English walks of his boyhood, opted for the literary world that had once seemed so dull. "The older I get", he says now, "the more I see that I was a writer from the beginning." He thought about style, about Conrad and Osbert Sitwell, about not wanting to be compared to John Buchan, whose novels he likes,

but says they are quite unlike his own (they are full of coincidences and all of Buchan's heroes belong to the Establishment), and about how he would really prefer to be writing short stories, were there a market for them. He settled down and began work. There were rough patches, but few after *Rogue Male* was republished in the early 1960s and Household, by now widely read on both sides of the Atlantic, became, as one critic put it, "the expert in the art of la chasse humaine".

## PUBLISHING

### Literary censorship

The Bodley Head are the publishers of *Little Black Sambo*, one of the relatively few books in the world that, down the generations, has hooked children on the pleasures and rewards of literature and persuaded them to advance - or retreat - to other books and other authors.

Bodley Head's president is the one-time liberal director-general of the BBC, Sir Hugh Greene, and among the 13 other directors is James Michie, translator of libidinous Catullus. The director responsible for children's books, Margaret Clark, has been quoted as saying that Helen Bannerman's classic about chitties, tigers, pancakes and crocodiles is "an anachronism - books like that which were perfectly acceptable years ago just don't fit into modern life".

In the USA, the publishers of *Huckleberry Finn* are reported as being about to tone down some of the language so that the sensibilities of certain readers - more likely, non-readers - are less likely to be offended.

Back at the Bodley Head, *Little Black Sambo* is likely to go out of print in February and not be reprinted. This may be, of course, because the book until recently was published by Chatto & Windus and it was foisted, with the rest of the Chatto children's list, on Margaret Clark. Much of the nature of publishing is to do with editors being able to say that they spotted or recognized the potential of books. *Little Black Sambo* was recognized as a classic before Ms Clark was born.

As the book is still in copyright (Helen Bannerman died as recently as 1946), presumably the rights will be gobbled up by another publisher more concerned with the intrinsic qualities of the book than in paying obedience to the self-righteous.

Books derived from the human imagination, of literary merit - and yes, *Little Black Sambo* is emphatically of literary and artistic merit - should not be demeaned by being treated as if they are tokens in a political jungle. If *Little Black Sambo* is brushed under the carpet, even banned, if Mark Twain's classic is watered down, what will be next? Will the credulous Othello have to have his lines rewritten for a White? The Bible and Shakespeare may be required reading on Richard Baker's inherited desert island but they certainly will not be available on the mainland to new (or old) readers.

This process, however it may be justified, is known as censorship.

The most enterprising publishing party of the year took place last month. Unfortunately, this column's invitation arrived after the occasion. Souvenir Press celebrated its twentieth anniversary of not attending the Frankfurt Book Fair. The champagne party was also "To resuscitate those who were eccentric enough to go. A registered nurse and ambulance will be on hand for anybody suffering from post-Frankfurt shock and depression."



From *Little Black Sambo*, by courtesy of Chatto & Windus

Next year's Frankfurt fair, the central event in the book trade's international calendar, will again take place during a Jewish holiday. The fair authorities (they would, wouldn't they?) explain, as is the way in such matters, that the stifling exhibition halls are only available on those dates. Meanwhile, Ernest Hecht of Souvenir Press and Sol Stein of the American house of Stein and Day are, by their non-appearance at Frankfurt each year, regarded more as eccentric than pragmatic.

The London book fair in 1986 will, for the last time, be held in the Kafkaesque interstices of the bowels of the Barbican. The ruse employed by an increasing number of British publishers is not to buy expensive, or even inexpensive, space wherein to proffer their wares - the dust wrappers of next season's masterpieces, finished copies between warring boards of last month's failures - but to wander the corridors as visitors, accusing foreign publishers known to them and hustling them away to the tranquillity of their offices where deals may be struck and contracts signed.

Ann Krittzer's Scriptmatic has been deluged with manuscripts since I wrote a couple of months ago about its reading service for a fee. It now has a team of 80 freelance readers, qualified "in 59 categories of fiction and non-fiction" and thus is able to marry manuscripts to appropriate readers. Ms Krittzer says: "All are professional writers and many are publishers' readers. Not all, of course, are kept busy - but if we had someone writing on goat-keeping or modern China we could deal with either." One of Scriptmatic's readers is the novelist Nona Coxhead. You may not have heard of her but you have heard of Keril Hulme's *The Bone People*, haven't you? When it was received from New Zealand the future Booker Prize winner was sent to Ms Coxhead, one of Hodder & Stoughton's readers, for assessment. She suggested serious consideration after revision.

Maybe that is why Ms Coxhead was not sent a finished copy of the published book. But, as she chirpily says, "That's standard publishers' practice towards readers, but of course I'll buy one."

E. J. Craddock

## Television

### When critics are well worth watching

*Saturday Review* (BBC2) lotted last year, ridden at a brisk trot by two of its producers - John Archer and Kevin Loader. The idea was a good one: to start away Lado's tested format of a studio discussion, topped and tailed by his view of the week and a short film feature, and apply this to the arts. In the process one or two things fell by the way (including, thank goodness, the idea of a second presenter).

The most important shift has been to eschew on the simple virtues of the three-part discussion. One of *Did You See*'s BAFTA-winning strengths was the careful, unexcited, cutting of its guests. In *Saturday*

*Review* they seem not only well-tried, but late-booked. The unexpected element has now been fragmented into a Stepiepod-like jumble of seven-minute features (time to be neither polemical nor instructive). These features, like the discussions, are often not as mainstream as perhaps they should be, but under the relaxed guidance of Russell Davies - whose clothes must have been left on the set when it was painted - programme has nevertheless become consistently interesting. When it stops nibbling at the gates of drama and finds more common ground, it will be very good indeed.

That said, *Saturday*'s scratch-video look at the year

was first-rate. There are few things so watchable as three critics articulately airing their prejudices and weaknesses. The more so if one entertains the faint suspicion that A. N. Wilson, Christopher Rickes and Hermione Lee have not spent the year viewing *Rambo*, reading Dan Dare and bopping to Live Aid. On one thing all three agreed: 1985 has been a bad year for the arts. They had stood alone in "a sea of standing ovations" (C.Rickes, after Geoffrey Hill). A.N.Wilson - wonderfully outspoken as ever - had even thought of defecting to Russia.

One of the highlights of the television year turned out to be *Shadowlands* (BBC1) by Bill

Nicholson - a dramatization of C.S. Lewis's marriage to a dying American divorcee. The BBC must be commended for showing this at the length it required for Lewis's bachelor love to grow, for the pain of his wife's illness to hit. There were some wordy patches but, overall, Nicholson's careful symmetry touchingly opened the door to God's purpose and the place of suffering within it. Joss Ackland as the cardiganed inventor of Narnia and Claire Bloom as his wife were quite excellent - so too was David Waller as Lewis's mellow brother, David Thompson produced.

Nicholas Shakespeare

## Theatre

### Peter Pan Aldwych

During the long years of *Peter Pan*'s enslavement to the Great Ormond Street Hospital, one used to hear mouth-watering accounts of the play's wonderful, unfettered life on Broadway with Mary Martin and Jean Arthur.

This transatlantic legend has now come home to roost in the form of a 1955 musical by Carolyn Leigh and Moose Charlap (with later additions from the Cornden, Green and Styne factory), which tips a barrel of trawle over the story, and omits such details as the lagoon scene, the return of Hook's crocodile, and the escape from the poisoned cake for the sake of accommodating about 20 unmemorable numbers whose message is well summed up in Miss Leigh's couplet: "Just think of lovely things/And your heart will fly on wings". On the whole, I think we were better off with the old conveyor-belt version at the Scala.

The most effective number consists of a hide-and-seek duet with Hook addressing an operatically ardent serenade to a spy young figure hidden behind a fan and mantilla. This goes with a swing and pushes the story along, but what sympathy can the adapters have had with the play to imagine that Peter would ever impersonate a woman? Otherwise we get waltzes, tarantellas, and lull-

abies, all bringing the action to a halt and adding nothing to it except the clichés of commercial fantasy.

Roger Redfern's Plymouth Theatre Royal production, arriving at the Aldwych after a two-month tour, is a faithful projection of the Broadway version. It is extremely efficient and determinedly superficial. We may not get much impression of the island, but there is a well drilled turn-out of Disneyland animals; and Terry Parsons's pirate ship - black mainmast sprouting from a skull with candlelit eye-sockets - is a fine invention.

Thinly cast in the supporting roles, the performance is carried by two indestructible troupers, Joss Ackland and Bonnie Langford. Mr Ackland (again departing from Barrie) junks the image of the old Etonian Hook in favour of a mock-Spanish grandee, apt to play the bashful eyelash-fluttering beauty whenever the crocodile is on his trail, while turning on the full demon-king for his encounters with Peter. It is synthetic, but so

is the show. Miss Langford, you are left gaping as by the performance of a star pupil: flying, dance, song (even *bel canto*, rising to a factory-whistle top note, perfectly in tune), every conventional theatre skill from the splits to the 100-watt grin is at her push-button command. There is not much in the way of character, but you cannot have everything.

Irving Wardle

## Concert

### Hallé/Thomson Free Trade Hall, Manchester/Radio 3

One complains that orchestras needlessly deprive themselves of contemporary music, but nothing has stopped David Matthews attaining a rather remarkable double exposure this month.

On December 11 his symphonic poem *In the Dark Time* was introduced by Mark Elder and the BBC Symphony Orchestra; then on Thursday it was the turn of his Third Symphony, played by the Hallé under Bryden Thomson in the hall where another third symphony was heard for the first time just ten months ago: that of Peter Maxwell Davies.

It is a mark of the historical switchback we are in that composers should be writing third symphonies again and that they should be talking, as both Matthews and Davies have repeatedly talked, of Sibelius as a key figure in the path of their present works.

But where Davies is still at heart a modernist, seeking a kind of harmony that is new, Matthews in his Third Symphony (though not at all so much in the symphonic poem) deals relaxedly with an understanding of tonality that would not have surprised Shostakovich, Sibelius or Mahler, those being the three composers, roughly in that order, to whom his own work most closely relates.

If that sounds reactionary, his writing about his music is positively young-fogeyish in its combative certainty about music's business being "the expression of emotion", for all the world as if nothing had happened, musically and philosophically, since Schumann. Perhaps the only way for Matthews to prove that the clock really has been turned back would be for him to try to pass off his works as having been written 50 or 60 years ago. In *The Dark Time* certainly would not stand up to such a test: it knows it belongs in the dark time of 1984-85. But with the Third Symphony I am not sure.

Like Sibelius's Seventh, and indeed like Matthews's previous two, it is a single movement, lasting little more than 20 minutes. It starts strongly with an urgent theme in the lower strings over rolling drums: memories of this pervade much that follows, the dotted rhythm escaping to whip up forward motion on several occasions. The argument proceeds inexorably in wave-like periods of accumulating tension and crashing release, with much colourful use of the orchestra: in pealing bell-bursts, for instance, or in sustained plateaux of fascinating texture. Then, after the largest climax, there is an utterly still slow coda lasting for about five minutes to end the work in C major; and here the Shostakovich precedent swings plainly into view.

Paul Griffiths

## Opera Filmic panache

### La fanciulla del West/The Golden Cockerel Grand, Leeds

Westerns were only 12 years old when Puccini's *Girl of the Golden West* was born; and it takes very little to send his *Fanciulla* riding off into Sunset Boulevard, as John Manocci proved so splendidly in the pit at Covent Garden, recently. Opera North have taken it all the way to the silver screen, and a mighty fine night out it makes.

David Pountney's production (originally for Netherlands Opera in 1981) introduces the work with silent-movie titles: their near-famous on-side-scenes ("Minnie and the stranger have met before") provide an original and gently ironic solution to the supertitle problem at appropriate moments throughout the evening.

First take, the Polka Saloon. Lighting and a manned film camera up above Günther Schneider-Siemssen's conventionally realistic set spotlight one or two characters at a time and guide the eye and responses between them. Extras (the miners' individuality is to some extent sacrificed) cross the stage diagonally, an old-style wind machine belches out snow, footage of a galloping posse spurs excitedly with raised fists on stage.

Everything is in muted sepia or, like Puccini's and Belasco's melodrama itself, in archetypal black and white. The iron face of Ramon is framed in hard silhouette by black beard and clothes; Johnson makes his first John Wayne-style entry in pale grey; Minnie's black suit is halved by a gleaming white scarf. This Minnie, what is more, is a real live Texan, Mary-Jane Johnson, making her British



Animated fancies: Elizabeth Gale and Andrew Shore in *The Golden Cockerel*

debut, has all the advantages the name implies, and certainly all the debacles for the part. If not yet the presence of a Barbara Stanwyck, nor quite the stamina to hold Puccini's vocal line in the palm of her hand. Her gritty goodness is shared against the vicious steel of Malcolm Donnelly's Ramon, whose vocal skill balances the role on just the right side of caricature. The point at which John Trevelyan, as Johnson, takes upon himself the burden of a Puccinian heroine, is the climax of a remarkably forceful performance. It epitomizes, too, this production's best stroke: its ability to enable you to watch, as it were, from both inside and out, nicely playing off the score's knack of drawing you in so far, then bouncing back off the ear. David Lloyd-Jones controls its rapid cinematic

changes with a panache and an ear for detail which draw the very best from his players. Gold glints not in the ground but high in the air in another Pountney show: Richard Jones's restaging of his Rimsky-Korsakov *Golden Cockerel*, trapeze and all. Inga-Lise Weigelt's high-flying artistry (Braeven Mills provides delicious off-stage sound effects) is just one element in this dizzying visual circus created by Maria Björnson and Sue Blane, as stunning in its spectrum of effects now as it was 10 years ago at Scottish Opera.

By some miracle, the fantasy of Old Russia and Ivan Biblin's print designs co-exist with an entirely English pantomime Wonderland. As the Queen of Shesmakha (Elizabeth Gale) and King Didon (Andrew Shore) journey home in Act III, curtain after curtain descends to reveal

a succession of exquisite animated fancy stills; Russian dolls bob up and down; the Prince brothers banter back to back like Tweedledum and Tweedledee in a production which thrives on ignoring any trace of Pushkin's irony or enigma. Nuala Willis is, predictably, an inimitable nurse Amelia, her every feature twitching and popping at the service of her voice. Her rich mezzo is a happier vocal colour for Rimsky's music than the very English soprano and bass of Gale and Shore. But Justin Lavender's stratospheric tenor brings magic to the Astrologer, a magic which, with Alexander Rahbari conducting a not over-sophisticated reading of the score, as yet works more potently through the eye than the eye.

Hilary Finch

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## SPECTRUM

## Lloyd's 21st century coffee house

The race is on to complete a new City centre for the world's top insurers. Charles Kneivitt takes the skin off Richard Rogers's audacious design

While the rest of us are gearing down for the Christmas holiday, work goes on at an intensive pace to complete the £163 million new Lloyd's insurance market headquarters in the City of London. About 400 builders are racing towards a handover on New Year's Eve. Fitting out follows with phased occupation from April next year. The Corporation of Lloyd's is hoping for a royal opening in May.

The 1986 building, designed by Richard Rogers, who received this year's Royal Gold Medal for architecture, will be the fourth Lloyd's headquarters in less than 60 years. Rogers was selected in 1978 after six architects on the shortlist had been interviewed. His brief: "To maintain Lloyd's as the centre of world insurance and the unity of the Room" - the traditional market place where brokers spread their clients' risks among underwriting syndicates.

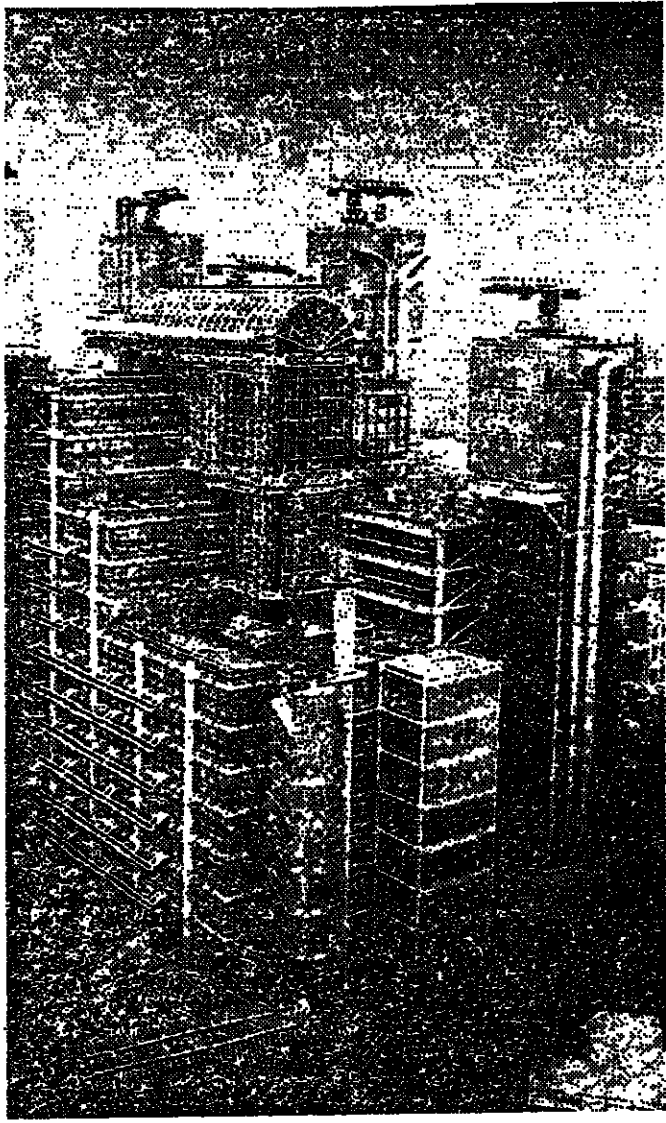
Having outgrown a succession of buildings this century, Lloyd's wanted its new headquarters to have a useful life of at least 50 years and incorporate the latest information and energy-saving technology, which has lifted the price to more than £300 per square foot, making it the most expensive new building in Britain.

Lloyd's has got a Rolls-Royce job but, as one would expect from the co-architect of the Centre Pompidou in Paris, the engine is wrapped around the outside of the coachwork.

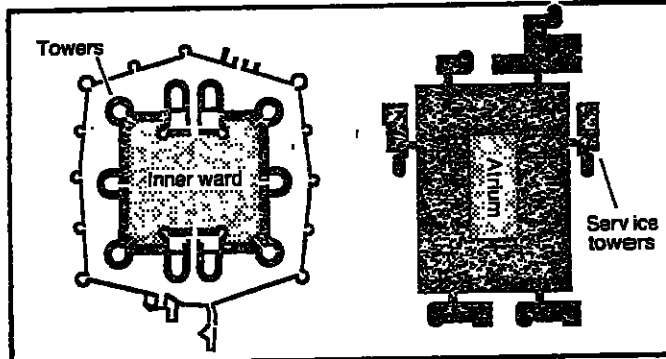
So how does the amazing technicolour dream machine that startled Parisians compare with what many see as the extra-terrestrial arrival in the City, a stone's throw in Leadenhall Street from the Bank of England?

Both buildings exemplify the belief in a technological utopia which was popular with architects in the 1960s. They have an optimism about the future which was common to many unbuilt projects by Archigram, the Architectural Association think and design tank, and architect Cedric Price's collaboration with producer Joan Littlewood on the design of a "Fun Palace".

But while Pompidou is a public, cultural supermarket and Lloyd's a private supermarket of commerce and finance, they share a rational design approach which separates "served" and "servant" functions, in the manner advocated by the American architect Louis



The City of London's latest landmark and Britain's most expensive new building: the £163 million Lloyd's centre by Richard Rogers, co-architect of the Centre Pompidou



Diagrams of the layout of Lloyd's and a castle used by architect Richard Rogers to explain the concept of 'served' and 'servant' spaces using Louis Kahn's terminology

Kahn. Rogers likens his building to a castle keep.

Six service towers housing ducting, lavatories and staircases with four external glass lifts on three of them, feed each floor, the size of a football pitch. They are topped by huge boxes which look like a stack of giant sea containers and permanent blue cranes on the skyline.

"One may recognize in each part its process of manufacture, erection, maintenance and finally demolition - the why, how and what of the building," says Rogers.

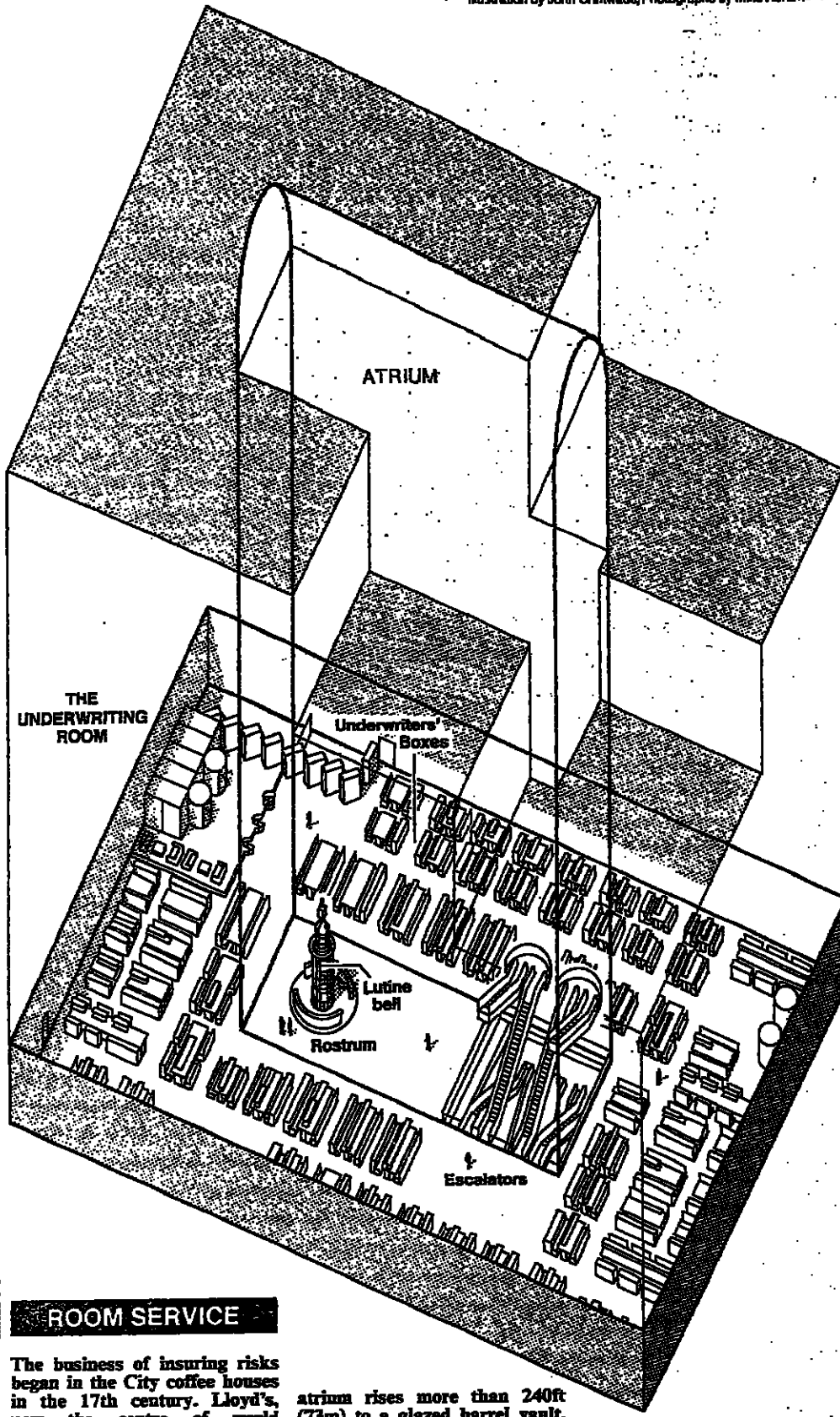
But his use of exposed concrete (prefabricated and in situ), large areas of stainless steel and aluminium, and the triple-glazing (including a layer of frosted glass) tend to neutralize its inherent upishness, in contrast to Pompidou's

primary-coloured patchwork. Lloyd's gleams silver in direct sunlight but takes on shades of pin-stripe suited grey under an overcast sky.

Its interior bears comparison with the great atria of John Portman's Hyatt hotels in America and the banking hall of his former partner, Norman Foster's £500 million Hongkong and Shanghai Bank head-

quarters, completed in Hong Kong last month. The double-height Room filled with underwriters' stalls, known as Boxes, surround the Rostrum and famous Lutine bell beneath an atrium almost 250ft high and crowned with a glazed barrel-vault roof. Twin escalators criss-cross the space.

This is where tradition meets high (or to Rogers, "appropriate") technology head on, while



ROOM SERVICE

The business of insuring risks began in the City coffee houses in the 17th century. Lloyd's, now the centre of world insurance, still follows the traditional pattern through a society of underwriters formed into syndicates who have stalls known as Boxes in the market place - The Room.

The double-height Room is at the heart of the new building. A single open space provides the ideal environment for complex deals. From its centre, the

most of the plant is hidden beneath raised floors and basement levels which resemble the engine room of some large ocean liner. The new building is linked by a bridge, like an umbilical cord, to its 1958 neighbour.

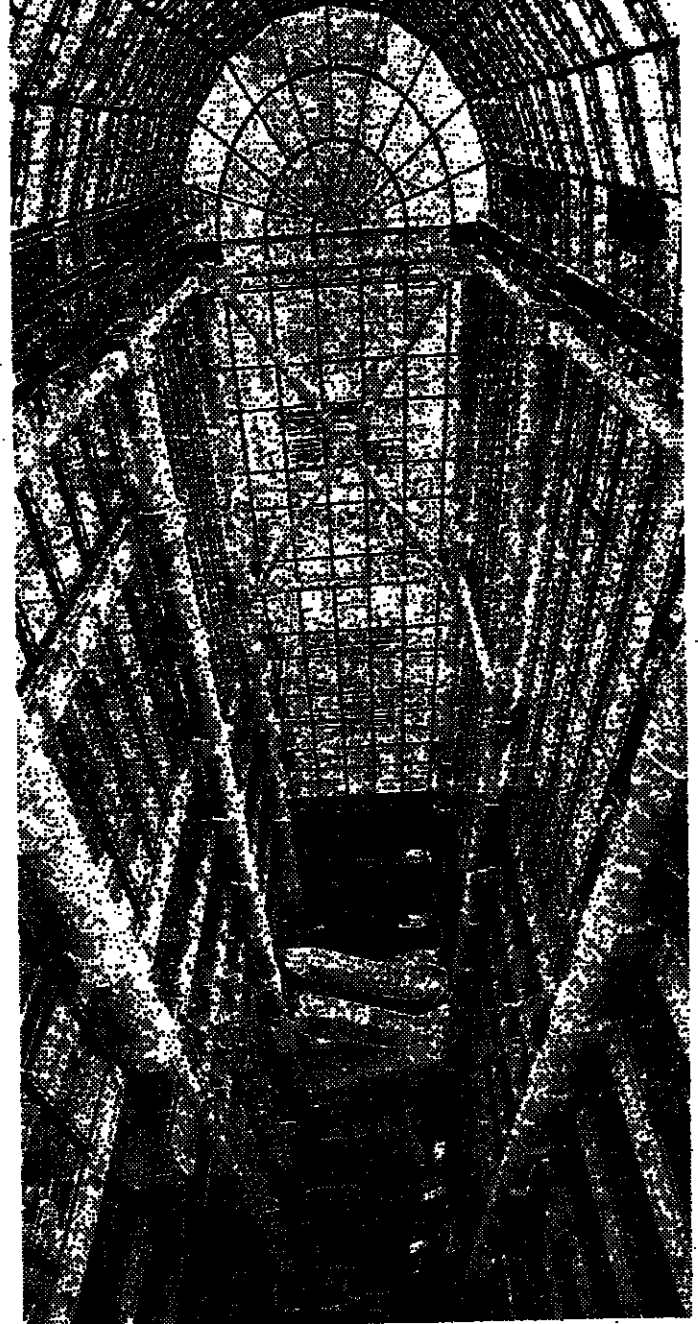
Like its 52-year-old creator, the new headquarters is an audacious, highly-tuned animal but with a social conscience. In this case passers-by will be

invited in to the coffee lounge, wine bar, shops, sports area and meeting rooms at street level. Alas, the opportunity has been missed for putting a public terrace on the south-facing roof.

As one of the leading exponents of the "let it all hang out" school of design, Rogers makes a virtue out of technological necessity. Although feelings about this aesthetic are

mixed, many consider it an aberration of the first principle of design, and that is beauty. Indeed the committee of Lloyd's took flight from the honesty of the architect's approach when it commissioned a French interior designer to furnish the top two floors, instead of the architect, breaking Rogers's heart in the process.

That can be seen as an inevitable consequence of the boldness of Lloyd's decision to appoint Rogers in the first place, for his kit of parts is deliberately designed never to look finished. The City's latest landmark is also its visually most provocative product, not so much a work of universal popular appeal but certainly a veritable machine for making money in.



A glazed barrel vault tops the atrium at the heart of the building 240ft above the floor of The Room, flooding the space with daylight. The escalators are seen below

## DOWN THE YEARS

1928: Lloyd's moves from the Royal Exchange to a new building by Sir Edwin Cooper in Leadenhall Street.  
1958: Lloyd's moves to its present building, designed by Terence Haysman, in Lime Street.  
1978: The Room extended.  
1977: Decision to commission a new building which would serve its needs for at least 50 years. Forty architectural firms whittled down to a shortlist of six, including Richard Rogers, Norman Foster and American-Chinese architect I.M. Pei.  
1978: May: Richard Rogers appointed after an assessment of the six architects' strategy (not design) for the new building. The client's brief: "To maintain Lloyd's as the centre of world insurance and the unity of the Room".  
1978: Outline planning permission. Demolition of listed 1928 building starts.  
1981: February: Demolition completed. Construction commences.  
1984: July: New building topped out by the Queen Mother.  
1985: December 31: Completion of the building contract.  
1986: Fitting out April. Phased occupation. May: Proposed Royal opening.

## SPECIFICATION

Cost: £163 million, including fitting out and professional fees.  
Gross floor area: 520,000sq ft (48,310sq m).  
Lower floors: Approximately 230ft by 131ft (70m by 40m).  
Height to top of atrium: 241ft (73m).  
ACCOMMODATION:  
Ground, first, second and third floors: The Room, linked by a double bank of 14 escalators.  
Fourth floor: Lloyd's premises department and visitors' gallery.  
Fifth to tenth floors: Lettable suites.  
Eleventh and twelfth floors: Chairman, chief executive, senior staff and the Committee Room.  
Access to the floors: Four external glazed lifts in each of the three principal satellite towers, at the corner of Leadenhall Street and Lime Street, Lime Street and Leadenhall Place, and in the new alleyway linking Leadenhall Street to Leadenhall Market.  
Client: Corporation of Lloyd's.  
Architect: Richard Rogers Partnership Ltd.  
Structural and Services Engineers: Ove Arup and Partners.  
Quantity Surveyors: Monk Dunstone Associates.  
Management Contractors: Bovis Construction Ltd.

## Channel 4 game plan pays dividends

American football has refined the art of televising sport, reports Ian Waddell

Channel 4 will begin 1986 as it means to continue - with a New Year's Day screening of large American footballers tumbling over or hunching about while commentators explain the crunching mathematics of the game to their English viewers.

While English football is suffering from a variety of ailments, football of the American kind is thriving in Britain. Teams are sprouting up across the country and every Sunday evening four million armchair quarterbacks watch the programme *American Football* on Channel 4; that's 10 times the number who pass through English turnstiles every Saturday afternoon to watch soccer.

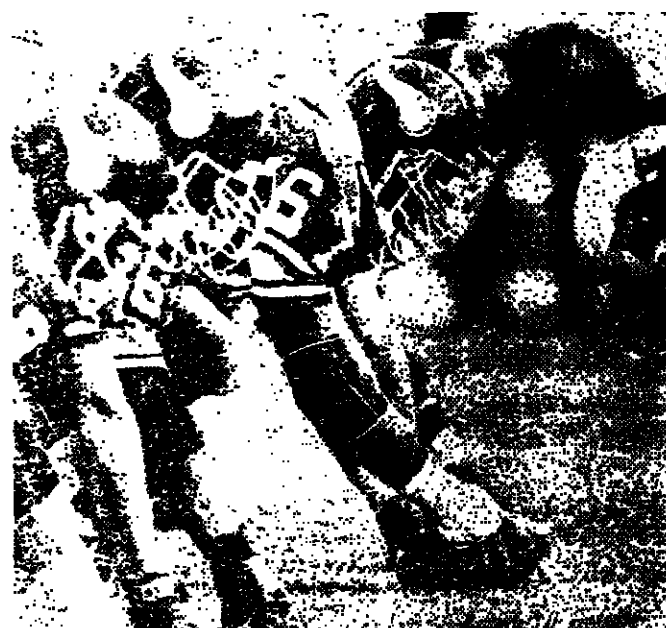
*American Football* is the creation of Cheerleader Productions who, with a turnover in excess of £2m, exemplify the new breed of small but successful television producers who are challenging more conservative attitudes at the BBC and ITV.

An open challenge to staid sports shows

It was Derek Brandon, Cheerleader's Executive Producer, who headed the consortium which five years ago persuaded Channel 4 to drop its "No Sport" policy, and instead go on to make American football their own.

"When we started," says Brandon, "probably half a dozen people understood it - and five of them were American - but we knew that *American Football* was not just a sports show." Adrian Metcalfe, the commissioning editor for sport at Channel 4, was also aware of the potential appeal of American football, having provided commentary on the Super Bowl (the US equivalent of the Cup Final) for ITV's *World of Sport*.

*American Football* is an open challenge to the staid, predictable presentation of traditional



Get set: all dressed up and ready to go

sports shows like *Grandstand* and *Sportsnight*.

Cheerleader have, instead, adopted a warm, friendly approach, coupling enthusiastic but casual presenters like the disc jockey Nicky Horne, to exciting visuals and strong music. Mr Horne takes a hand in choosing the music. "I am just one part of a close-knit production team," he says. "I can give input and be more than just an Antenne reader."

This team's approach to the programme is technically difficult and certainly not cheap. *American Football* uses three producers, a computer worth over £120,000 to generate the graphics and at least 37 hours of editing time at the heady price of £5 per minute.

For Basketball, they used eight cameras instead of the traditional two in an attempt to close in on the action and capture the beauty of the game. Unfortunately, static viewing figures plus a lack of finance and viewers' time has cut basketball from a weekly, prime-time schedule to just a few games a year, but not before televised coverage generated interest in the sport itself. Now nearly every team in the National League First Division is playing to capacity crowds.

For World Championship Tennis they introduced graphics into the coverage (much to the delight of deaf viewers) and Cheerleader employed six producers and a live transatlantic link-up to provide analysis of

each hole by the professionals at the US Masters during American commercial breaks.

Big money and politics led to Cheerleader losing next year's Masters to the BBC, but Brandon is quick to point out that big money and politics do not necessarily make good television and is adamant that this is part of the problem facing soccer, which until next month will have suffered from an almost total lack of TV exposure this season.

Philosophy and style welcomed by viewers

In fact, Channel 4 are not interested in showing soccer. "We'd prefer to show feature films or sports which are desperate for television coverage," says Mr Metcalfe.

The sponsorship of American football by the US beer company, Budweiser, has pleased both Mr Brandon and Mr Metcalfe. All their £100,000 was placed into Channel 4's budget for programming. This has contributed to Channel 4 featuring over 50 sports this year and has given Cheerleader the chance to do their best possible presentation.

It also means that Mr Brandon has finally gained airtime for America's summer sport, baseball, after three years of frustration due to lack of network finance.

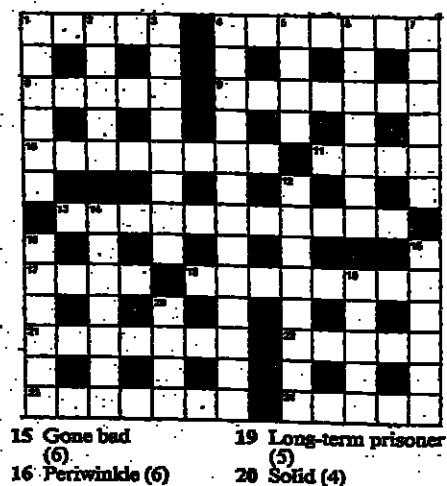
Now Cheerleader are keen to put their philosophy to work outside sport, bringing their own particular style to bear on rock documentaries, game shows and drama.

● Cheerleader have two big American sport days on Channel 4 this January: Wednesday January 1, 11am-12.30pm *American Football*, 12.30-2pm *World Series Baseball*; Sunday January 26, 9.30pm *Live Coverage of Super Bowl XX*.

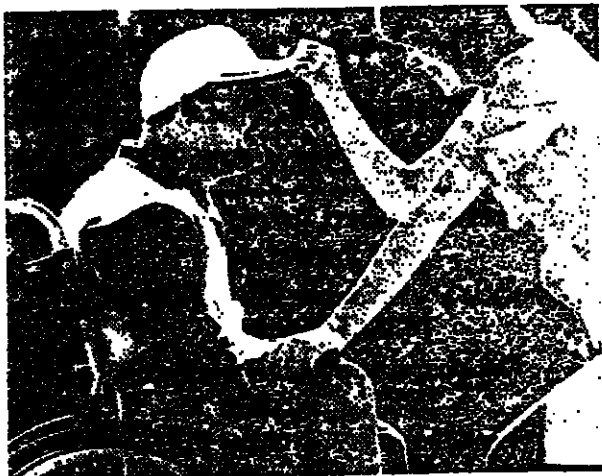
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## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 832)

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1 Imprecise (5)  
4 Periodical (7)  
8 Tiniest (5)  
9 Informed on (7)  
10 Single-track line (8)  
11 Quote as proof (4)  
13 Savage (11)  
17 Spheres (4)  
18 In masculine way (8)  
21 Last parts (7)  
22 Inexplicable (5)  
23 Commissionaire (7)  
24 Mourning song (5)  
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1 Book (6)  
2 Coral fruit (5)  
3 Outside (3)  
4 Defence (13)  
5 Imminent for (4)  
6 Confused (7)  
7 Paying guest (6)  
12 Amaze (8)  
14 Commerce stoppage (7)  
15 Gone bad (6)  
16 Periwinkle (6)  
19 Long-term prisoner (5)  
20 Solid (4)



SOLUTION TO JUMBO CONCISE CROSSWORD  
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MONDAY PAGE

# Suffering a shock to the system

The tragic case of Jasmine Beckford has raised doubts about the training of social workers. Former student Ann van den Brink felt that such work was her vocation but she tells Sally Brompton why she abandoned her studies and decided not to take up the profession

Ann van den Brink was 31 when she decided to become a social worker. The idea first came to her while she was doing voluntary work in a school for mentally handicapped children. "I used to watch the social workers who came to visit them and they hadn't got an inkling of what to do or how to behave with the children. On one occasion it seemed to me that a male social worker was almost afraid of an eight-year-old girl with cerebral palsy. It made me angry. I thought what the hell has he come for? Here didn't seem any point. I felt I could do better than that."

At a time when the professional skills of social workers are increasingly a cause for public concern, Ann van den Brink would certainly appear on the surface to be an ideal candidate for the job which - as is becoming apparent with tragic regularity - can mean the difference between life and death.

**I felt I had something to offer... it really meant a lot to me**

She has five children (the oldest is 16, the baby 21 months) and an instinctive and practical understanding of caring for the handicapped and underprivileged. She has worked with both physically and mentally handicapped children - voluntary jobs which she loved. She is articulate, capable, down-to-earth, committed.

Brought up in a council house in Essex, she left her Roman Catholic secondary modern school at 15 and went straight out to work as a 24-a-week junior clerk. Over the years she has worked as a telephoneist, a shop assistant, a secretary and a carer to help support her family. "I may not have any academic qualifications but I've got a lot of experience of life and plenty of common sense," she says.

She began the two-year Certificate of Qualification in Social Work course at The Suffolk College in Ipswich in 1981 on a first-year local authority grant of £1,908. "I was really thrilled when they accepted me. I felt I had something to offer and it really meant a lot to me."

The course, however, was not what she had imagined. "It seemed unstructured, sloppy and slapdash... sometimes we'd all sit round in a circle and the tutors would slump in their chairs and ask us 'what shall we do today?' Once we had to act out a sketch from a fairy story. Two of the students had to pretend to be Hansel and Gretel and I was the witch and then I had to be a depressed mother and Hansel and Gretel had to be my two mischievous children. The other students had to guess who we were."

"One morning, two of us had to wander around town looking at

people's shopping bags and when we got back to college we had to tell the tutor what conclusions we had come to. I felt totally inadequate because I couldn't really make a morning's work out of it. During another session, the tutor asked us 'How many peas are there in a pod? How many cows in a field? How many sweets in a bag? How many brownies in a pack?' It went on for a good three-quarters of an hour and boiled down to 'what sort of number makes a good group if you are going to do group therapy?'

"I began to think there was something wrong with me. I thought 'I'm not inventive or imaginative enough. I'm obviously too down-to-earth.'"

"I wasn't the only one. There was unrest among some of the students - particularly the older ones like myself. But whenever I said anything about it, the others would say 'just hang on until you get your piece of paper and then you can go out there and do what you want'. It really shocked me."

"Also, we were told that our progress was being assessed continually. Nobody wanted to say too much in case it went down on his assessment."

Part of the course involved spending three months working in the field. "All the social workers I met kept complaining about the size of their case loads and about how much they had to do and I'd think 'they haven't done that much'. Their capacity for work just didn't seem to be that great. I was used to working much harder just bringing up a family and running a home."

"And I felt that a lot of the time they tended to look for things that weren't there and miss completely the things that were. I think you need to be realistic and it seemed to me to be more important for a child to be happy than to have his sheets changed every week."

On some outings with groups of youngsters considered to be "tear-aways" she was shocked at the failure of the social workers in charge to attempt to control them. "I think they regarded me as an old-fashioned disciplinarian who hadn't moved with the times. But I believe that there are occasions when a smack on the backside doesn't go amiss."

By the end of her first year, Ann decided she had had enough. "I felt I wasn't getting anything out of it at all, which was very sad. Just seeing the kind of people who became social workers convinced me that I didn't want to become one after all."

Her second husband, Roy Budgen, 38, a doctor of philosophy and a senior lecturer in social policy at the college for eight years, shared her disillusionment and gave up teaching at roughly the same time in order to write. He and Ann had met at the college and began living together several weeks before they left.



Disillusioned: Ann van den Brink with her husband and family

He said: "When I first came to Ipswich in 1974 I was enormously excited and full of enthusiasm for the whole business, but then I began to become aware of the bizarre nature of the training. Some of my colleagues would say things like 'I don't know what we are going to do today. I'll have to show them a film or let them wander about the town and see what they can find out about the world.'"

"I have sat in on colleagues' lectures as an invited guest and watched everyone sit in silence for 20 minutes and then analyse the reasons why nobody had spoken. There was, I felt, a lack of intellectual discipline... in the end I couldn't happily spend my time and draw my salary by being associated with a process which was turning out products ill-fitted to the task of social work."

The situation was made worse by the fact that because of the reduction in financial support for students, you could get in almost by just putting pen to paper and I was having to teach

**I began to think there was something wrong with me**

people who should not have got near the place. The failure rate for social workers is so small that as long as you can get in to a college - which is now so easy - unless you do something extremely stupid you're going to go out at the end as a social worker."

Roy Budgen believes the situation is widespread. "I've travelled all over the country and my observations are that it is a national problem. I think universities have more concern for discipline but even so I'm not certain that social workers get the same rigorous training as they would in medicine or law."

"Part of the trouble is that the majority of the tutors are qualified social workers who were recruited in

the Seventies and came into the business with no teaching qualifications, and in my experience they are frequently people with little understanding of the educational process."

"They consider the lecture to be a very backward form of training. At The Suffolk College everyone had to sit in a circle to emphasise the equality between teacher and student. The idea being that we can all learn from each other - which is all very well but I think the responsibility is still on the teacher to teach and I think that often doesn't happen."

The principal lecturer in the Department of Professional and Management Studies at The Suffolk College refuted the suggestion that the social work course was slapdash and haphazard. "The quality of our work is very thorough and highly professional," said David Heather. "Obviously with such a large number of people passing through it is inevitable that someone is going to be critical of what we do, but the vast majority of our students are satisfied with the quality, style and comprehensiveness of the training and overall we prepare people very thoroughly for their first jobs in social work."

Of the thirty students who enrol each year, he estimates that about five fail to qualify, often for domestic reasons or because "they find they are not suited to social work. The college's two-year course includes social psychology, social policy, welfare rights, social science methodology, general and professional law and social work principles, as well as practical training in the field."

While David Heather was not in charge of the department when Ann van den Brink was at the college, he remembers her husband as "a very able lecturer with an outstandingly good reputation." David Heather stresses that both the curriculum and the syllabus of the £2,000 course is scrutinised by a tutorial board. "You can't be a social worker just based

## THE QUALIFICATIONS

Around 3,500 students qualify to become social workers each year. The Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work lays down guidelines as to standards and to what the courses must include. It also insists that half the training is supervised practical work. The basic qualifying courses prepare a social worker to work in any setting. But there is provision for specialists and the council recommends that this takes place after qualification, although a number of courses emphasise a particular aspect such as probation work.

The minimum course of two years can be done either in non-graduate courses, in polytechnics or colleges of further education. Students under 25 must have a minimum of five O-levels and preferably some A-levels. Those over 25 must demonstrate their ability to do an academic course.

There is also a two-year post-graduate course for graduates with any degree and of one year for those with a degree in social sciences or social administration as well as relevant experience. There are also a number of undergraduate courses of four years with an option in social work.

The only qualifications the council insists that their non-specialist social work lecturers possess is that they hold a recognised qualification in social work which in practice can mean that they may have only just qualified themselves and never actually held a social work job.

upon common sense," he says. "There is a huge knowledge base and in the end it is the application of this knowledge coupled up with one's own professional approach to social work in general terms that matters."

Despite her decision to leave the course, Ann van den Brink received high marks in her end-of-year tests and was told that if she wanted to finish the course she could come back any time within the next three years to do so - "which I thought was very decent of them. But there was no way I could have slotted into it. I didn't fit into this sisterly militant band of social workers."

As a result of her experiences she now believes that social workers do nothing that could not be done as well by a voluntary agency.

"I'm certainly not the type to make a social worker as they are now having seen the training they go through. I don't regret giving up the course because I don't think I would have left it properly equipped to do the job," she said.

**I could do the job but I wish the system were different**

"I think you need knowledge and guidelines to be a social worker and I didn't get that. I'll never forget what happened during my first week of training when I suggested that what social workers needed was common sense. I was basically shouted down. 'How can you mention common sense when you can't define it? You can't even say exactly what common sense is!'

"I certainly haven't changed my views. And I still think that I could do the job. I only wish the system were different."

Almost six months after his resignation, Roy Budgen was invited back to lecture on a part-time basis but declined, despite being out of work. "My disillusionment was such that the temptation of earning so many pounds an hour was not the point," he says. "I just didn't want to be there any more."

He has since written a humorous novel highlighting some of the aspects of social work training about which he is critical. "It's not the college which is at fault so much as the system, which is a wasteful, irrelevant mess."

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## A touch of class at the alma mater

My first feeling at being asked to present the prizes at my old school this year was that particular exhilaration which comes when you think that an action of yours will be one in the eye for somebody else.

The somebody else was nobody in particular - a vague amalgam of contemporaries who clanked around wearing perfect badness while I was being told off for one of my regular misdemeanours in the headmistress's study, teachers who had not seen fit to inscribe my name in gilt letters on the honours board, governors who had never shaken me by the hand and given me a prize.

The first flush of intense happiness was off as soon as I had to get down to preparing a speech. So dismal was my school career that I couldn't believe that anything I delivered there would not be handed back with a red scrawl at the bottom which read "C minus. Please consult me about this poor effort."

Being, by this time, in a state of pure panic, I did the only reasonable thing in the circumstances and had hysterics all over Bernard Levin. This saintly fount of all wisdom quietly referred me to the story by P. G. Wodehouse where Gussie Fink-Nottle finds himself at a school-prize giving. Plunging through the Great Author's collected output trying to find this particular passage took my mind off my own troubles wonderfully.

I then felt calm enough to write a winning discourse called "Life-Sentences: Expectations in Women's Lives" which, before delivering it to several hundred schoolgirls and their staff and parents, I showed to the wittiest politician I know, in the hope that he might sharpen up some of the jokes for me. Some hope. All he did was circle the typing errors and question my vocabulary. It's as well for him that he is a masterly ad-libber, as it's unlikely that any speech-writer of sensitivity would stay the course.

On the day of the prize giving I went through my old school's main entrance with the same sense of foreboding that had hit me in the guts every day from the age of 11 until I was 17 and ran off to Paris to lead a life of decadency. The same smell of earnest endeavour was in the air. The same wooden honours boards gleamed with the names of everybody but me. The same photograph of one of the founders, looking inappropriately like the male impersonator who sang "All the nice girls love a sailor" on the music halls, still stood beside the window.

Wearing my best Jean Muir leather jacket but feeling as though I was back in gravity-stained serge, I made my way to the headmistress's study - and was greeted by a tall, elegant blonde with Meryl Streep cheekbones. In my day, headmistresses came from Central Casting, complete with hairy tweed two-pieces and thread veins. It was quite a surprise to find one who would not have looked out of place on the books of a model agency.

Checking out the rest of the staff and pupils, I found



PENNY PERRICK

prettiness breaking out all over the place. The prizewinners wore a stylish array of Betty Jackson-inspired droopy jerseys, huge earrings, wildly-patterned blouses, and a headmistress's study, teachers who had not seen fit to inscribe my name in gilt letters on the honours board, governors who had never shaken me by the hand and given me a prize.

But inside these pretty heads were some perfectly beautiful brains. The prize giving programme was thickly sprinkled with asterisks and bold type that signified distinctions in examinations and most of last year's sixth form leavers seemed to have got exhibitions to Oxbridge to read Jurisprudence or Mathematics. How unlike the star pupils of my own school days, who all had fat knees and acne.

The gist of my speech was that women must now look upon a career as a job for life or, as I put it, not very charmingly, "All of you here are statistically more likely to have a full-time job for almost the whole of your adult lives as you are to remain married to the same husband." They listened politely, laughed in the right places and then sloped off, glamorously and self-confidently into the night. How comforting to know that there is no need to lock up our daughters: they are obviously perfectly able to cope with the wide and wicked world.

A book called *Only the Best* - a celebration of gift giving in America - notes that the offering of presents involves "acts of love, humour and revenge."

No knowledge could have come in handier at this time of year. To prove that I know what's socially chic, I am off to buy some ribbed leggings for a woman with saddle-bag thighs, a box of Belgian chocolates for a girl who is trying to stick to the Cambridge diet and a bottle of after-shave for a man with a beard. For two pence I would also buy one of those jigsaw puzzles that don't have a picture on the lid but throughout the whole of my life I have never met anybody who has been nasty enough to me to deserve that.

\*By Stuart E. Jacobson. Price \$35, published by Abrams, New York.

## TOMORROW

Life after *Dynasty*: Ali MacGraw talks to Suzy Menkes about her tastes in fashion and how she dresses to please herself

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## Snakes alive? A tail of mystery and suspense

If you think you can guess someone's lifestyle from the things they plump down at the supermarket check-out, remember appearances can be deceptive. Spend 51 weeks coaxing the family to eat wholemeal bread, low-fat spread and sugarless marmalade and wouldn't your friends catch you out on the fifty-second week when an unspeakable yearning for thin, sliced plastic white bread, salty butter and colouring-laden strawberry jam has overcome your poor basket-filling hands?

I was admiring one friend's well-balanced and economically astute purchases the other day as we clashed trolleys: low-fat spread, granary oats, fresh fruit and vegetables, a frozen pack of whitebait.

"So, you're not eating much red meat, either, these days?" I quizzed her. "Oh, the whitebait?" she replied. "That's for the snake."

That frozen block of small fish had one of its members prised away every ten days, defrosted and fed to Mad Max, her son's two-foot-long North American garter snake, purchased from a pet shop for £8.

Kept in an empty glass aquarium with a variety of natural lighting and an overhead lamp for warmth, Mad Max was now celebrating his first year in her son's capable care.

As we passed the pickles and cooking oils, I told my friend our family's sad tale. We, too, had owned a garter snake. About three years ago my 13-year-old had come home from school with a seven-inch gold baby snake in a jar to be paid for with a cheque for £4, sale or return - the trading terms of a snake-breeding classmate.

This snake's name was Henry. He would live in a perspex box lid. He only needed the warmth of an overhead 40-watt bulb, the shade of a large branch of privet and a saucerful of fresh water every day. "He only eats once a week," was my son's final sales pitch. "A worm from the garden if you can find one."

As a child I had been used to a variety of pets around the house and garden. A monkey, two goats, Old English fighting game, trilling canaries and lovebirds, so a tiny Luxur-shimmering snake which cocked its



head intelligently at you when you spoke was neither here nor there.

Next day disaster struck. The door of Henry's special room was found ajar. The cat was slinking away with the nearest thing to a smirk on her tabby face. The perspex box lay on the floor. Forty watts beamed down on to an empty table. Over in the corner by the brass fireplace fender were the sad remains; one Luxur tail.

That bedtime there were tears and recriminations. "But your mother loves animals", my

husband said, reasoning the two boys out of their conspiracy theory. A short funeral service was held for the tail in the pouring rain.

After a day of inadequacy, depression and guilt, I privately wondered if I could cancel the cheque.

One week later, while vacuuming the carpet in the same room, I bashed the Hoover against the unpolished brass fender. Something gold shimmered and then vanished under the fender. I bashed the fender

again. It was Henry - tailless but otherwise fine. As I got to this bit of the story my friend and I approached the dairy section for the second time. She was looking rather pale. "Oh, the bit where it had broken off had started to heal beautifully," I reassured her. "Like a lizard he must have broken free in the danger."

"So you've still got him?" she asked, placing a 93p natural yoghurt on top of her bran biscuits. I had to admit we lost him again after that miracle escape.

My younger son forgot to replace his lid after showing him off to a friend. By that time Henry's home was in the laundry room near the open back door. It was a sunny day. Can a North American garter snake survive three summers and winters in our great outdoors without a 40-watt bulb?

We were now approaching the check-out. My friend said anxiously: "Yes, he does need heat." Maybe he's not outside at all, I confided. Every time I spring clean under the washing machine and near the freezer I dread seeing that familiar wriggle. Has he been living under the floorboards undisturbed at last by silly women, careless schoolboys and marauding cats? When we try to sell the house with vacant possession will he rear up through a pipe cavity, well-fed on woodworm, death watch beetle and whatever else we're claiming not to possess: three feet long and gleaming? One slippery tenant?

Vivien Tomlinson

LAURA ASHLEY

S A L E

STARTS

27TH

DECEMBER



# THE TIMES DIARY

## For Pitt's sake

Kenneth Baker, the Environment Secretary, is to be asked to sanction a remarkable item of GLC (i.e. public) expenditure: up to £50,000 on indemnifying Peter Pitt, chairman of its arts committee, against costs incurred in suing *Private Eye*. The GLC's policy committee decided on this in private session last week after legal advice that a snippet about him could be defamatory, and that the expenditure might be justified on the grounds that the alleged libel is "sufficiently grave to threaten the future exercise by (his) committee of its proper functions, and thus, in turn, of the GLC itself". No matter that the GLC will be abolished long before the case could be heard; the mere issuing of a writ would help restore public confidence in the committee for the remainder of its existence, says counsel, and it might prompt *Private Eye* to publish a prompt retraction and apology.

## Devolution

Britain may be quitting Unesco, but moves are afoot for Wales to stay. Dafydd Elis Thomas, MP and president of Plaid Cymru, has written to Unesco's general secretary, Amadou Malou, asking if it would maintain links with Wales alone. He concedes that this may be difficult because Wales, having only limited international recognition, is not strong on state institutions. He suggests, however, that a link might be forged through the Welsh Centre of International Affairs based at the Temple of Peace in Cardiff.

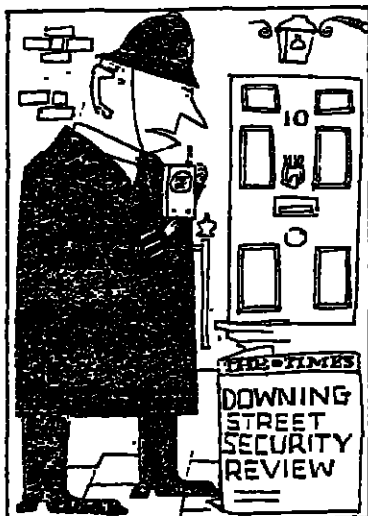
## Rod unspared

Rod Hackney, Prince Charles's rebuked architectural adviser, at least has a sense of humour. He has just paid £100 for a Mac cartoon at Shetler's "Monstrous Caricatures" charity exhibition at the Building Centre. It shows a dossier beneath a railway bridge exclaiming: "Then after I was released from the Tower I tried to get my architecture business started again but it was no good...."

## Sight unseen

Tory rebel David Howell, sacked as Transport Secretary in 1983, has a book coming out in the spring critical of government policies. It is called *Blind Victory* - "victory" because centralism has been defeated, "blind" because the government has failed to adapt its industrial and employment policies to changing circumstances. Howell should keep his doors firmly locked. When it was revealed last year that former Cabinet colleague Francis Pym was writing a similar book, his office was mysteriously ransacked.

BARRY FANTONI



"Suspect on roof: beard, red suit and carrying a large sack"

## Flashback

How times change. I have just been shipped anonymously a 1979 *Militant* Bulletin recounting a legal battle being waged against Militant by Labour right-winger John Goding over the paper's version of his conduct on the national executive. Triumphant *Militant* claims that not only Dennis Skinner and Joan Maynard support its account - but also Neil Kinnock, Patricia Hewitt, Kinnock's aide, told me this weekend that it sounded too unlikely even to bother asking him about it. "I'd guess it's about as accurate as the rest of that paper," she said.

## Party rifts

Villagers of Parwich, in Derbyshire, are rather sad about the split in the Workers Revolutionary Party. For the past decade, like feudal landlords, the WRP has invited them to its training school in the village, White Meadows Farm, to eat, drink, and fraternise with Vanessa and Corin Redgrave at a Christmas party. Unfortunately the Redgraves have stayed loyal to the disgraced Gerry Heath. Michael Banda's faction has retained control of the farm - and cancelled this year's party.

## Gold-plated

The GLC, it emerges, has no fewer than 11 vehicles boasting number plates lettered GLC. These plates would doubtless be of great sentimental value to the likes of Ken Livingstone post-abolition. To acquire one, however, he would have to buy the vehicle, and therein lies a problem. Only two are attached to cars, and one of those is a Daimler limousine. Tractors account for six and a Ransome mower, a dump truck and a "specialized surface defectograph vehicle" the other three.

PHS

# Wanted: a ministry of science

by John Kingman

Every civilized country spends about half of one per cent of its gross national product - and some significantly more - on basic scientific research funded from the public purse. The sum is not insignificant for an activity which few people can begin to understand.

This involves a number of political problems. Should a government include a "science" policy which relates the support of science to its perception of the national interest? If so, how can politicians inform themselves sufficiently to make rational decisions on subjects in which they rarely have professional expertise?

In 1982 Mrs Thatcher's government agreed with a select committee of the House of Lords that "there should not be a separate executive department responsible for all aspects of science and technology."

Thus we have a decentralized system which reflects the departmentalized structure of British government, under which something is in the national interest only if it fits within the departmental priorities of one or other secretary of state. The overall research effort is the sum of largely independent departmental activities, and it is not considered proper to compare these with one another, still less to trade between them. This system has a number of serious weaknesses.

First, it encourages research in departments with large budgets at the expense of those whose budgets are smaller. The number of really good scientists is limited. If one department can afford to buy up all the talent, the research of other departments (and of research in the

private sector) will suffer.

Another weakness is that it inhibits communication and the free flow of ideas and criticism. Government laboratories can easily become cut off from the main flow of science just when new problems arise which need fresh ideas and techniques.

An urgent new problem will not wait for the necessary experts to be produced. The nation needs to be able to call on those who have been working for other, non-specific reasons on those areas which will suddenly become of importance.

Outside the areas of agriculture, medicine and the environment which have their own research councils, the locus of basic research is in the universities, supported by the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC).

Most of the money for this research comes from the block grant of the University Grants Committee. Both the UGC and the various research councils receive their money from the Department of Education and Science. The secretary of state has no control over the applied research sponsored by other ministers, who in turn can influence only indirectly the level of support for basic research. This disjunction is perhaps the strongest argument for the government to formulate and implement a policy for its own support of science.

How do others manage this sort of problem? In most European countries basic research is concentrated more in research institutes which are

easier to co-ordinate than universities.

In the US the job of co-ordination is taken up by the science adviser to the president, who enjoys the support of an extensive organization within the White House complex. In Britain, there has for 40 years been a scientist near the prime minister with some responsibility for the overall pattern of public science.

Unfortunately, the position of the chief scientist has steadily declined, from cabinet minister through permanent secretary to deputy secretary, and for one terrible period to under-secretary.

In contemporary times two ministers in particular have come to be regarded as ministers of science and technology in embryo. One is the parliamentary under-secretary in the DES responsible for, among other matters, higher education and the research councils. The main weakness of his position is that he has only minimal departmental support, since the science branch of the DES is only a tiny part of that department, and the branches dealing with higher education concentrate on teaching issues and take little cognizance of the research function of universities, and still less of polytechnics.

Meanwhile, at the Department of Trade and Industry, a minister of state is tackling similar problems. He controls very little of the government's direct research activity, but he can and does sponsor research in industry and through SERC in universities and polytech-

nics. The quadrilateral, with DTI supporting industry, SERC the higher education sector and policy co-ordination between the DTI and the SERC, is a powerful mechanism whose potential has only recently been realized. But it has grown up despite, not because of, the departmental structure.

An alliance between the two ministers and the chief scientist in the Cabinet Office could provide the mechanism for the development of a policy for public science, but none of the three has authority over government research. Only the Treasury takes an overall view, a fact whose implications do not need to be spelt out.

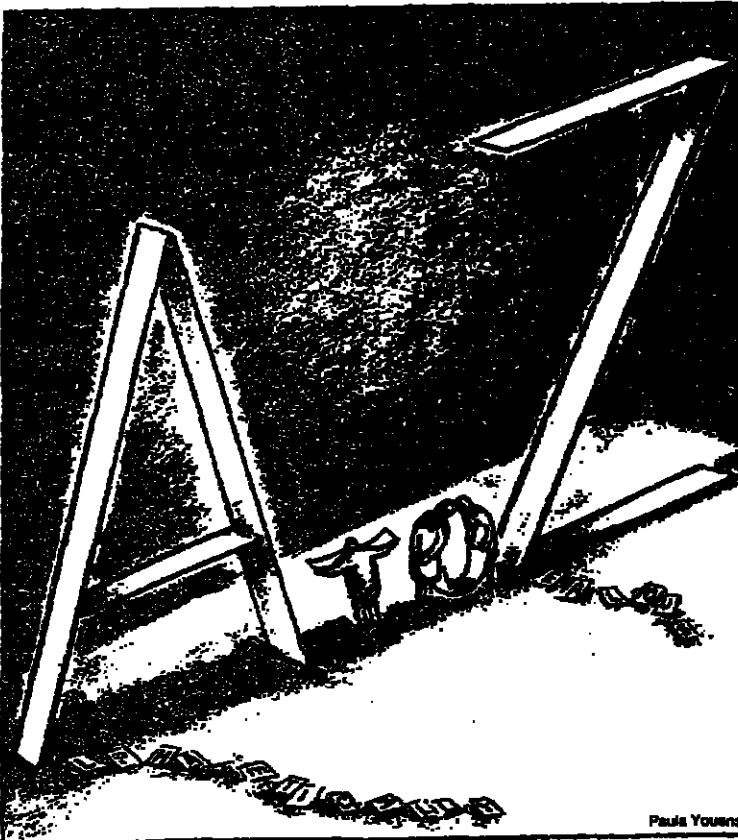
If the issues are important enough to require ministerial intervention, the disarray becomes very public. To whom is the minister of research and technology from Paris or Bonn to talk when he comes to London? The answer is that he probably doesn't bother to come.

Britain urgently needs a proper ministry of science and technology. I am not arguing for such a ministry so that science would have a voice in the Cabinet, or because I believe it would generate more money for science. Both objectives could be achieved without setting up a ministry. The real need is for coherence in policy and, in particular, for the sensible allocation of limited public resources.

The author, formerly chairman of the Science and Engineering Research Council, is vice-chancellor of Bristol University. This article is extracted from a speech given in London recently.

## Bernard Levin: the way we live now

# Enter the lists for this noble minority



Lord Finchley tried to mend the electric light himself - it struck him dead, and serve him right. It is the duty of the wealthy man to give employment to the artisan.

I discovered that there is a professional body, the Society of Indexers, and that it gives an official qualification, attained by a rigorous expert assessment of an indexer's work, which alone entitles him or her to be included on the Society's register. I also, however, discovered the lady (I was introduced to her by my publishers) who has indexed all my subsequent books, and who is the craft of proof-reading (in which I do have some skill of my own), but the comparison is invalid, for indexers need far more hard-won knowledge and understanding than a proof-reader, and it is not too much to say that they not only enhance and make more useful the books they index, but that their art at its best can be a genuinely creative part of a published book.

Yet the minimum rate proposed by the Society of Indexers (it is not enforced, and hardly could be) is at

least in particular subjects - and give other essential information. But those who would like the services of My Very Own Indexer should write to me; if they seem sufficiently respectable I shall give them her name and address.

But there is, difficult though you may find it to believe, a particular point to this column. It is the truly shocking level of payment that this very remarkable and responsible work commands. Publishers sometimes pay indexers the same hourly rate as proof-readers. I salute the craft of proof-reading (in which I do have some skill of my own), but the comparison is invalid, for indexers need far more hard-won knowledge and understanding than a proof-reader, and it is not too much to say that they not only enhance and make more useful the books they index, but that their art at its best can be a genuinely creative part of a published book.

Yet the minimum rate proposed by the Society of Indexers (it is not enforced, and hardly could be) is at

present no more than £5.25 an hour, and publishers have been known to complain to indexers that they are "pricing themselves out of the market". Apart from the lamentably low level of reward for so high a level of professionalism, the hourly rate is an absurdity in itself, for it takes no cognizance of the widely different varieties of index, some of which are far more complex and demanding than others.

A few publishers absorb the cost of an index, and one who does so has expressed himself uneasy at the majority who charge the author for it. Instead, "I do not," he said, "charge the author for having an artist design a book jacket, nor for the skilled work of my in-house editor." My own publisher is among the majority; I do not begrudge a penny of what my beloved indexer charges, but then her fee is only a tiny fraction of what my books earn me, and I know that there are writers to whom the indexer's charges represent a substantial proportion of a small advance that is unlikely to be increased by subsequent royalties. No doubt that would be true also in the case of very small or specialized publishers, but it is high time general publishers took the view that the work of the indexer is as essential as that of the jacket-designer or for that matter the printer and the supplier of paper, and carried the cost.

This is by no means so esoteric a subject as you may imagine. Hardly a week goes by without a book reviewer complaining at the low quality (or absence) of the index to a book he is dealing with; the Society's quarterly magazine has a regular feature consisting of excerpts from reviews, and the number of adverse comments is considerably greater than that of indexes praised, and quite right too, for I have read many books of outstanding quality, interest and value which have been seriously and irretrievably damaged by an inadequate index; one that comes to mind is the *Diaries of Cosima Wagner*, which came in two volumes, though my public explosion of rage at the useless index to the first volume had no effect on the quality of the second, which was just as bad. Even my own publishers have recently sinned inexcusably, and I know of very few who never do so.

This, then, is a plea for an admirable profession, equipped with real skills, to be accorded both the respect and the reward that it deserves. I have no interest to declare; though I was honoured to be invited to join the Society of Indexers I am not available to do other people's indexes, and a lousy first I would make of them if I were. But in their obviously lesser and unspectacular way, indexers suffer from misprision and injustice, just as homosexuals, smokers and Freemasons do, and I felt that, having repeatedly done my duty by the last three, I could do no less than bang a drum for the first.

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Anne Sofer

# Three wise memos - or are they?

The Christmas break will give Mrs Thatcher a chance to reflect on one of her more intractable problems - the teachers' pay dispute. Meanwhile the Christmas post, more chaotic than usual, has delivered to me the following three memos, all clearly intended for 10 Downing Street.

To: The Prime Minister  
From: Research Department, Conservative Central Office

You asked for an assessment of poll findings on the teachers' dispute. Gallup indicates that parents are now more concerned about the strike than about any other issue in education - it has gone from eighth place to first in the last six months. At the same time the nation is not giving enough attention to education doubled from one third to two thirds between 1959 and 1984 and now stands at a record 75 per cent.

Since 1984 the percentage of parents dissatisfied with their children's education, and who think it is worse than their own education, has increased sharply. Both now stand at 41 per cent. On the figures for public esteem for teachers, the slow decline which was noticeable between 1959 and 1984 has continued, but there seems to be no special factor related to the present pay dispute.

As I read these figures, there is rising concern about education in the country, and it is more likely to hurt the government than the teaching profession - though there will be damage to both.

To: The Prime Minister  
From: Osbert Oldschool, Heartlands Comprehensive School, Surrey

May I, as a first supporter of the Government's financial strategy (and I must be about the only headmaster of a maintained school in the country who dares make that boast) offer what insight I can into the effects of the current dispute, and a possible way out?

Market forces are now working clearly to deplete quality in the teaching profession. Fortunately in my own prosperous suburb, a combination of judicious appointments and the general conservative (large and small "c") climate has enabled me to keep out the sort of trouble-makers who are causing major disruption in some schools, so the academic programme has continued smoothly this term. But many of my best teachers are leaving. Four maths/science teachers have left this term to take up jobs outside teaching. The private sector is snapping them up - often for almost double the salary. An extremely able young physical education teacher has left to join the fire service (for an extra £2,000), one of my ablest history teachers, elected on Scale 2, has got a job in education television - and so on.

moreover... Miles Kingston

# Tempting fate on the footplate

Regular readers will know that real life is not allowed to impinge too readily on what goes on in this column. Unfortunately, real life has a habit of biting you in the ankle now and again, and last Wednesday real life bit back with a vengeance. For that morning's *Times* I had prepared a little fantasy piece about what might happen if you were stuck in a 125 Inter-City train, absolutely motionless for half an hour. What I had forgotten was that morning I was due to take the 7.45 Euston to Glasgow train, getting off at Lancaster.

And so it came to pass that as I unfolded *The Times* to read this ha-ha fantasy piece about standing still in the middle of the country, the train came to a halt, and for half an hour we stood still, or occasionally limped forward. After an hour we had still not reached Watford. I had read my piece many times by then, and it did not seem at all funny.

The north, it is sometimes said, begins at Watford, but what is more important is that breakfast also begins at Watford. If you are sitting in the restaurant car and have ordered your grapefruit segments and mixed grill as you leave Euston, you will never under any circumstances receive them before Watford, in case people getting on at Watford also want grapefruit and sausages. A stomach that waits an hour for breakfast is not a happy stomach.

On the other hand, people who look like missing their connections do start a general conversation in a way that British Rail passengers normally do not. The girl opposite me had to get to Chester via Crewe for a top-level charity meeting at 11, and she told me her life story as well as background material. In return, I told her that I had to get to Carnforth by 1 pm to catch the Flying Scotsman to the middle of the Yorkshire moors.

Improbable though it sounded, it was quite true. For most of this year I have been working off and on for BBC2 on six films about steam railways. One of them is about the Flying Scotsman. The locomotive known as the Flying Scotsman has been at Steamtown, Carnforth, undergoing major transplant operations so that it can sail forth at Christmas time to pull various special trains.

Last Wednesday was the day it was due to undergo its final test on a stretch of main line. (I can make all this sound more amusing when I have a few grapefruit segments inside me.) The BBC had got permission to film on board the engine with me as the token ignoramus, or presenter, as it is technically known.

All these teachers had the makings of leaders in the profession. A crisis of leadership is already with us. Who wants to be a head these days? Many of my colleagues are suffering nervous breakdowns. It will be even worse in five years time.

I am convinced that we need an immediate substantial rise in teachers' salaries. If need be, it will have to be paid for by a cut in numbers. Over the last five years, salaries have improved overall and salaries have fallen. It was the wrong way round.

Of course the unions will scream, and the education lobby will wince. Let them. What we need is quality not quantity.

To: The Prime Minister  
From: Frederick Farright, Centre for Policy Studies

I believe we are now at breakthrough point on the whole subject of state education. If only the Government holds firm, we could suddenly find ourselves making a quantum leap towards the free market system which is the only way this country can shake itself free of socialist mediocrity. The state system is currently in total disarray: the unions divided, the teachers beginning to show themselves in their true Marxist colours, parents in despair, those jackasses from the local authorities wringing their hands and thrashing around doing nothing.

So now is our chance. I suggest in the first instance a series of pincer movements: a big increase in the assisted places scheme, pressing ahead with a "direct grant" pilot scheme. And meanwhile, behind the scenes, we should be preparing for an experimental voucher project.

Some of the loonier local authorities are likely to be in a state of collapse by this time next year, what with a continued strike - official or unofficial - confrontation over rate-capping and so on. As soon as the stage is reached where the Government has to step in, what better way of regaining support among the electorate than by offering the parents education vouchers? Their children won't have been getting much education to speak of for the past two years in any case. The teachers will have been behaving sufficiently outrageously to justify locking them out. So we could start with a clean slate.

I know that seven voices will warn you about the effect on public opinion. Here the better presentation of our case would be a help. Have we had professional advice on this?

The very last thing we want at the moment is an inquiry. The teachers would be bound to win, and we would be back to all that dreary bureaucratic consensus. Now is our chance of breaking that, so hold firm!

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

# Great Wall, but still the tycoons queue

Every weekday afternoon the waiting room of Peking's main telegraph office is packed with people waiting to make a long-distance telephone call. Despite the addition of 10,000 extra lines with the recent opening of a new exchange, only a small minority of Peking residents are on the telephone. Nationally, the figure is a mere 0.4 per cent.

In its five-year plan for 1986-91, the Chinese government gives high priority to improving the telephone network, along with energy and transport. It is not surprising, therefore, that senior officials of Britain's top electronics firms - STC, GEC, Cable and Wireless, Plessey, Ferranti and Racal - accompanied Lord Young on his recent trade mission to China.

The Sichuan provincial government is already well advanced in its plan to install PABX systems and digital exchanges in rural areas in a joint manufacturing venture with a Western company. Richard Reynolds of GEC spent every waking minute of the mission's trip to Chengdu trying to persuade provincial officials it should be his company. Beyond that is a vastly more ambitious system for the Yangtze delta, costing £500 million, that could provide work for nearly all the companies represented on the

Young mission - cable, optical fibres, digital exchanges, telephone sets and so on.

This is a particularly auspicious time for Sino-British trade. Despite criticism by hardliners, Peking's "open door" policy towards foreign industry is still on course and China seems set to maintain an annual growth rate of at least 7 per cent. At present Britain accounts for only 2 per cent of China's imports, but this should increase substantially after the agreement on the future of Hong Kong and Mrs Thatcher's visit to Peking a year ago. The Queen's visit to China in October 1986 will underpin the improvement in relations.

There have been some conspicuous successes already. British Aerospace believes its contract to build 10 BA 146s at a cost of about £100 million will be followed by orders for up to 40 more. The decision by Sir Eric Sharp of Cable and Wireless to buy the Hong Kong Telephone Company last year in the midst of the colony's political travails could well prove an entrée to the mainland. Last Thursday C & W consolidated its Hong Kong purchase with the inauguration of a new 100,000-line microwave circuit which will pave the way for direct dialling between Hong Kong and the

whole of neighbouring Guangdong province.

All Western companies, however, still face an uphill struggle in penetrating the Chinese market. As a step towards industrial self-sufficiency, China is looking principally for joint ventures that eventually will be export earners. That may be a relatively simple matter where the project is a hotel and therefore a natural foreign currency earner; in manufacturing, where Chinese hopes of export-led growth seem unrealistic to their Western partners, it can make negotiations much more difficult.

One result of the relaxation on imports has been a big influx of TV sets and cars - dramatized by the Hainan scandal in which officials were found to have abused the island's special "open" status by importing 70,000 vehicles for resale for up to 40 more. The decision by Sir Eric Sharp of Cable and Wireless to buy the Hong Kong Telephone Company last year in the midst of the colony's political travails could well prove an entrée to the mainland. Last Thursday C & W consolidated its Hong Kong purchase with the inauguration of a new 100,000-line microwave circuit which will pave the way for direct dialling between Hong Kong and the

Ferranti hopes to build China's first advanced technology integrated circuit factory. Peking had suddenly objected to the proportion of profit which would be reinvested in Britain under the locally negotiated terms.

The most jaundiced Western view of trade with China comes from a background paper prepared earlier this year for US officials by Catherine Houghton of the US embassy in Peking. It said that among the many disincentives to overseas investment in China were "severe foreign currency restrictions, overvaluation of the Chinese partner's contribution, inflated labour costs, poor labour discipline... unpredictable customs treatment, dependable supplies of local materials, grossly inadequate energy, transportation and communications, an irrational pricing structure, uncertain access to a poorly defined domestic market, a marginal return on investment and difficult expatriate living conditions."

None of this imposing list of obstacles, however, has deterred Western businessmen. The trade missions will continue to seek audience with Peking's new mandarins.

Donald Macintyre





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## SUBTLETY IS NOT ENOUGH

All governments manipulate the rate support grant. The intellectual Mr Crosland, the puritanical Mr Shore, the wily Mr Heseltine and now the clever Mr Baker: as Secretaries of State for the Environment they have all done it. Rates reform, if it ever comes to pass, will not lessen the temptation. As long as there is a central mechanism to supplement the resources available from local taxation, ministers will massage the figures for the sake of principle and patronage. To criticize them for it is worse than naive, for it betrays a hankering after the substitution of administrative formulae for the judgement of accountable politicians.

This year Mr Baker can be faulted perhaps for his subtlety. To be accused simultaneously of pushing their rates up and by Mr David Blunkett, the conscience of the cities, of trying to keep urban rates down is no mean feat. At one and the same time, there is a relative shift of money towards the inner urban areas (bait in the city?) and yet through the rate-capping mechanism Mr Baker can properly claim to be keeping a tight lid on Labour city council spending. It will take an extraordinarily clear-headed ratepayer to know which party to reward in the May elections next year, in, say, a rate-capped inner London borough.

The trail that ought to have led, however, from abolition of the Greater London Council through to substantial ratepayer savings has been covered over, grants have been shifted about. The Government's intention is for city ratepayers to feel better off as a result of abolition and perhaps they will. But the promised savings in manpower and cost and bureaucracy are yet to be glimpsed: it does the Government little credit to renege so openly on the calcu-

lations of savings made on its behalf two years ago by Mr King. To pay for a shift in grants to London and the cities, counties with a strong rate base - for example the suburban counties of the South East - have lost. The Government says blandly this is an inevitable consequence of the process of resource equalization, a nice phrase which also covers the scheme by which commercial ratepayers in the City of London and Westminster are charged an extra impost for the benefit of the inhabitants of Hillingdon and Barking. Another phrase, describing the same process, is socialist redistribution.

Mr Baker, as all the world avows, is an accomplished salesman of such packages as last week's RSG distribution. But something else is needed. What is missing is a sense that the stream of policies for the local administration of England and Wales that has issued so fast and so furiously from the Environment Department over the past six years is not just leading towards a dangerous centralism. In the New Year the Government promises its thoughts about the future of local government finance. Here discussion of the technical merits of poll tax will not do. The issue of the autonomy of local decision-making must be grasped.

The materials for such a debate are already about. Mr Baker says he is proud to have ended the system - put in place in 1982 by Mr Heseltine - by which every council received a centrally decreed expenditure target. This system represented the logical extension of the cash limit regime, an attempt to control the disaggregated financial decisions of four hundred local authorities. That it did not work is besides the point; more important it took away local

decision making potential and put central government in line to take responsibility for the most parochial events. It was statist of a sort no Conservative government should have had time for, except in financial crisis.

Under the new rules applicable in 1986-87, councils have the freedom to increase their expenditure, but will run up against a series of carefully graded schedules under which spending above thresholds will result in heavy loss of government grant. It is a regime of sticks and carrots and must be welcome for its restoration of responsibility to the local level. But what the Government must surely do now is extend the principle further. It must present its thoughts on alternatives to the rates not as a surreptitious exercise in expenditure control but a genuine restoration of accountability to localities.

There is no use pretending this does not involve sacrifice, most notably of the doctrine of Treasury control of the aggregates of local public expenditure. It will involve, necessarily, the abandonment of rate capping, for ultimately (if local accountability is to work) there can be no second-guessing of ratepayer preference. For too long the Government's policies for local government have taken the form of emergency reactions, ill thought out responses to a perceived failure of control. Now that reform of local taxation has been made the centrepiece of local government policy for the remainder of the Government's term, the time has come for a reassertion of principle. And that principle must be a belief that local taxpayers - within a fair system of taxation which matches financial and political responsibility - are the best judges of local expenditure.

## CHRIST BEHIND THE CURTAIN

In Britain, as in most West European countries, Christmas is virtually the only day in the year when the churches are full, although we continue in theory to identify ourselves as a Christian society and state. In several of the communist states of Eastern Europe, by contrast, you may find full churches all the year round. Marxist theory predicts that religion will fade away under communism. But in real life it is marxist theory which has faded away under communism, while religion is a growing force behind the Iron Curtain today.

In the West, the reverse sometimes appears to be the case: marxist theory flourishes under capitalism, while religion has tended rather to fade away. The paradox is well captured by the Solidarity leader Lech Walesa. "If you look at what we have in our shops," he has remarked, "communism has done very little for us. But if you look at what we have in our souls, then I answer that communism has done a great deal for us."

Of course Poland is exceptional in this respect. We must be very careful not to oversimplify the position of the Churches and religious believers in communist lands. Superficially attractive generalizations such as the proposition that "only a persecuted Church is a strong Church" are as risky, and on closer examination as inadequate, as the old saw that "only suffering produces great art". Many of the official Church hierarchies have in fact been crippled or corrupted by pressures from the communist state. This is true to a greater or lesser degree of the Roman Catholic Churches in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Lithuania, although in all these countries there is a significant movement "from below" of Christians who refuse the compromises made by state-vennt prelates and constitute vibrant unofficial churches with their own remarkable religious samizdat.

It is true in a rather different way of the main hierarchy of the Orthodox Church in the Soviet

Union, which by and large continues its Tsarist traditions of identification with the Greater Russian empire, although here too there are courageous priests - the name of Father Gleb Yakunin must stand for many - who bear true witness under conditions of extreme persecution. And of course it is most devastatingly true of Albania, where the state's ruthless atheism has quite simply made worship a physical impossibility for the great majority of its citizens.

Conversely where a Church has preserved a high degree of institutional strength and independence, it has not done so simply and solely by outright defiance. The Protestant Church in East Germany, for example, has defined its own position as that of a "Church in socialism" and striven very hard to find areas of common ground with the state, although never hesitating to speak out against it on issues of conscience where no compromise is permissible. And the unique position of the Catholic Church in Poland today is due partly to the readiness of its great post-war Primate, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, to make institutional compromises which were much criticized at the time they were made.

Moreover, it is legitimate to enquire how many of the young people who now fill the churches in Poland and East Germany do so for other than strictly religious reasons. In recent years, some have certainly gathered there because in a communist state it is the only place where they can freely discuss the social and political problems which most concern them. And recalling Lech Walesa's remark, we may just sometimes wonder whether the churches would be quite so full if the shops were not quite so empty.

Yet when all these necessary doubts, distinctions and qualifications have been entered, the overwhelming impression remains that these Churches have a clearer conception of what they are here to do, and of where they are going, than most of our

Churches in Britain and Western Europe. And if this is true of the Churches, how much more so it is true of individual Christians. Arguably the greatest reaffirmation in our time of the fundamental common values of our European civilization has come through Christians from the other half of Europe - be they Protestants in East Germany, the Pope from Poland, or a Russian Orthodox priest like Father Yakunin. They it is who have most powerfully restated the values of freedom, peace and love which we often all too casually profess.

The Christian's inner freedom allows them to declare, from a prison cell: *stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage*. But they also proclaim the absolute necessity of those external freedoms without which most people cannot live in truth and dignity. The concept of peace they rescue from its increasingly superficial usage in the West - where it seems more and more taken to mean simply the absence of nuclear war - and give it back its full, deeper meaning. When they talk of a "struggle for peace" they know what it means, on their skins and those of their families and friends, to meet violence with non-violence, evil with good, hatred with love. And in our time, it is Christians like Father Jerzy Popieluszko who have again given us an example of that final sacrifice which we must, ultimately, each and all be prepared to make, if we truly believe in the values of a Christian civilization. "Greater love hath no man than this..."

So if, once a year in church, between the Christmas shopping and the Christmas gazing, we are asked to remember Christians in the other half of Europe who do not enjoy our material welfare, our peace and our freedoms, we would be ill-advised to think of them in the spirit of a rich family remembering its poor cousins. They are probably richer than most of us in true fellowship and faith. From them we can learn.

## Christmas and the poor

From Mr Ian Wallace  
Sir, I recently received a letter reporting that a small group of Sudanese and expatriate Christians had raised over £500 Sudanese (five times the average monthly wage) at a communion service to send to the drought-stricken areas in central Sudan. At current prices their gift will buy five sacks of grain.

At the same time I read that the quantity of grain now stored in Europe and North America is approximately 358 million tonnes, to say nothing of the meat, oil and dairy surpluses.

As Christmas approaches and we sing happily of "peace on earth and good will to all men" should we not bear in mind that the issues of peace and of justice are usually intertwined?

It now appears that the system of world trade which brought us wealth

and security through the 1970s did so at the expense of the poorer nations of the world and, to use Paul Valéry's words (Screened from the suffering children, December 13) "... the West was keeping its head above water by standing on drowning black men".

If we are truly concerned about world peace it is not time that we sought to reverse the current trends which give preference to the export of armaments while mountains of food accumulate in our storehouses? Refusal to recognize that we have a responsibility to the world's poor will give our Christmas celebrations something of the air of Nero's revelry.

Yours faithfully,  
IAN WALLACE,  
95 Swindon Road,  
North Wroughton,  
Wiltshire,  
December 17.

## Government action on schizophrenics

From the Joint Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department of Health and Social Security

Sir, Your leader of yesterday (December 19) dealt with a subject which is important to me. No one who has spent a day with the National Schizophrenia Fellowship can for a moment forget schizophrenia and the unhappiness it brings to the sufferers, their families and those who care for them.

You ask for a "clear admission from the Government that care in the community is not a cheap option, but one that will cost more." Health authority plans provide for rising expenditure over the next 10 years. These plans show that authorities have heeded the Government's urging to shift expenditure towards priority services. At the same time spending by local authorities (which have a much smaller share in mental illness expenditure) continues to rise - by 42 per cent over the last five years.

I would welcome your firm declaration that "the policy of making care in the community available is the right one". But you appear to have some misconceptions about DHSS policy. The Government has not urged health authorities to discharge long-stay patients. Indeed, statistics confirm that the number discharged in 1983 was considerably lower than the number discharged in 1973. As our policy paper says:

"Patients who would be better off outside hospital should have a planned discharge to suitable care even if no closure is foreseen; patients who are better off in inpatient care should continue to receive such care, by a transfer if necessary, even if a closure is planned."

The fall over the last 30 years in inpatient care has now reached a point where some hospitals are uneconomic to run. We have, therefore, urged health authorities to plan comprehensive alternative services, including the transfer of long-stay patients where appropriate. As your article indicates, the closures of a minority of hospitals are crucial to putting right the present anomaly under which 90 per cent of the patients are in the community while 90 per cent of the resources are in the hospitals.

Second, the number of community psychiatric nurses providing a lifeline to the chronic patient at home is growing particularly fast. Some 18 months ago, as part of our wider "helping the community to care" initiative, we financed work in three different health districts specifically aimed at the chronic schizophrenic person. These were designed to improve communication within a district - to secure a properly co-ordinated service. A key point was the involvement of the carers, as trusted allies of the professionals.

The Government is very conscious that a policy of community care must be accepted by the public. On the whole the situation is not as discouraging as some may think. But it is hardly helpful either to the carers, or to sufferers from

schizophrenia who are seeking to lead a normal life in the community, to place such public emphasis on the comparatively rare cases involving violence or a threat of violence. The many studies show that most sufferers are glad to be at home; that most carers prefer the sufferer to be there than elsewhere.

Your article has only confirmed my acute concern that the heroic efforts of carers should be recognized. The DHSS is doing all it can to see that professionals give them more help and move in effectively if and when the carers can no longer cope. I welcome the moves which the Royal College of Psychiatrists has already made in this direction and I shall do what practical help the carers is given the priority it deserves.

Yours faithfully,  
TRUMPINGTON,  
Department of Health and Social Security,  
Alexander Fleming House,  
Elephant and Castle, SE1,  
December 20.

From Dr Paul Williams and Dr Greg Wilkinson

Sir, We welcome the fact that you have drawn attention to the problems of patients with schizophrenia and their care in the community. In particular, we agree with your leader's observation (December 19) that the policy of community care is the right one, but that it is "the execution which is proving weak".

However, we wish to draw attention to a lacuna in your otherwise comprehensive editorial. In the words of the House of Commons Social Services Committee on community care (HC 131, II, III, paragraph 188) community care (for the adult mentally ill) depends to a large extent on the continuing capacity of GPs to provide general medical care to mentally disabled people.

The role of the general practitioner services in the care of patients with schizophrenia and other chronic mental illnesses, and that of their families, is generally neglected. There is evidence that the vast majority of such patients are registered with GPs and it is insufficiently recognized that these doctors play a crucial role in dealing with crises and relapses, as well as in routine medical care.

In this context, the recommendations of the Social Services Committee are worth emphasizing: greater understanding and encouragement of the GP's role in the management of mental illness on the part of hospital psychiatrists would be welcome (paragraph 23.84) - the training of GPs in psychiatry (should be reviewed) - with a view to ensuring that GPs are better equipped to provide general medical services to mentally disabled people.

Yours faithfully,  
PAUL WILLIAMS,  
GREG WILKINSON,  
General Practice Research Unit,  
Institute of Psychiatry,  
de Crespigny Park, SE5,  
December 12.

## Awards and rewards

From Mr John Cook

Sir, Last Sunday night I had the dubious pleasure of watching on television the Society of West End Theatre Managers' annual awards programme. I wish, as an inveterate theatregoer, to make three points:

First, these award-giving ceremonies make such embarrassing television programmes that they have a completely adverse effect on those who are unable to go frequently to the theatre and judge the shows and performances for themselves.

Secondly, if the ceremonies are considered to be beneficial and the object is to promote excellence in the theatre as a whole, should not the awards be spread more widely to include those matters, other than the shows themselves, that also affect the pleasure of a night out in the theatre? I refer to the cleanliness and decor of the theatres, the service in the bars during the interval, how quickly the box office staff answer their telephones, are the programmes good value for money etc.

Thirdly, I would also question whether it is really necessary to employ TV newscasters to intrude the awards at what is essentially a theatrical occasion when there are thousands of unemployed performers who could do it equally as well, if not better.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN COOK,  
Deaton & Warner's Agency Ltd.,  
47 Greencoat Place,  
Westminster SW1,  
December 10.

## University admissions

From the Senior Tutor of Emmanuel College, Cambridge

Sir, As an admissions tutor, I was puzzled by your report (December 11) that "Universities are to give special consideration to A-level pupils whose education has been affected by the 10-month teachers' pay dispute". How, I wonder, does the Secretary of the Standing Conference on University Entrance propose that this aim might be achieved, given that a very high proportion of the approximately 200,000 candidates will have had their schooling disrupted by the dispute?

Admissions tutors do, of course, make special allowances to candidates in exceptional circumstances and always endeavour to assess sympathetically those candidates who have prepared for and taken their A levels while coping with particular difficulties such as illness or accident, a family bereavement or a parental separation.

Such exceptional circumstances cannot, either in theory or in practice, be generalised to cover the disruption to their education (from the planning of a school system) by many, probably by most, and possibly by all sixth-formers. Admissions tutors in the universities

## Planning in Oxford

From Mr F. V. Savage

Sir, The "Threat to the historic environment of Oxford" (letters, December 10, 14, 17, 18) comes not from "indiscriminate development" but, as I have been at pains to point out to the Oxfordshire and city planning authorities and the Department of the Environment, as a consequence of the green belt collar which stifles the city.

This collar of constraint obliges the planners to deliberately release amenity land near to the town and university for housing and other development, which is by reason of the planning control system of today, architecturally inferior and offends all that is old and fine.

Had there been more concern for the needs of the growing population which would, and should have been satisfied in the towns and villages of the countryside around Oxford, the city itself would still be as pleasant as it was in my school days.

I am sorry to say that the price we have had to pay for the green belt was too high, but then why single out Oxford? Our cities are being similarly spoilt by green belts and has not the time come when we should examine the extent to which we deplete our urban areas with infill on remaining green sites?

Yours faithfully,  
F. VICTOR SAVAGE,  
Savage & Partners,  
The Gatehouse,  
1 Blith Street,  
Chesham,  
Buckinghamshire.

## Case for giving students loans

From Councillor John Hart

Sir, Today's leader (December 18) on student paupers comes well. The Government evidently believes it makes more sense to disburse money in mandatory grants than to recycle it as loans. Or hell.

Besides the mandatory grants, distributed free on behalf of HM Government by local education authorities and only recycled 90 per cent from national coffers, many of those same local education authorities provide discretionary grants to residents for courses not covered for mandatory grant.

This is entirely their own money. The amount available is dwindling. Annually my own authority (Barnet, a generous provider) has to disburse some 200 applicants, most of them with a job in mind for which they want to get the qualification. If we could use our own money as loans we might eventually help more such people.

Callously, local education authorities may not make loans for such a purpose; nor is there any intention so to empower them, I have been told by the Department of Education and Science. Why? I am, Sir, very truly yours,  
J. R. HART,  
London Borough of Barnet,  
Members Room,  
Town Hall,  
Hendon NW4.

## Westland's future

From Mr G. Knight and others

Sir, As people whose livelihood depends on the success of Westland Helicopters, we can only view with alarm the controversy surrounding the rival rescue bids for the company.

No doubt ministerial disagreements make excellent copy, but offer little comfort to a workforce and a community which has spent the last year or more living under the shadows of firstly, a possible takeover bid, then various "rescue bids", and now 742 redundancies.

If collective responsibility is a term used to describe Cabinet decisions (and in this instance the term hardly seems to apply) then "collective inertia" is the only way to describe the actions of the Government and the Ministry of Defence in recent times.

A great deal is now being said about the importance of a European solution and the defence interests of this country being compromised if the Sikorsky rescue package goes ahead. Surely there has been ample time to provide the assistance Westland so badly needs without waiting until the last moment to cobble together a rescue plan involving our conjectural European partners.

Westland is a private company, and as such should be allowed to attempt to solve its own problems. We feel that the Sikorsky solution offers more hope for the future and is highly preferable to having no helicopter industry at all.

Yours faithfully,  
G. KNIGHT,  
D. SMITH,  
D. CLEMENTS,  
D. WILLIAMS,  
L. THOMPSON,  
10 St Michael's Avenue,  
Yeovil, Somerset,  
December 19.

## Interest on policies

From Mr Percy Richer

Sir, On November 18 the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry announced in the House of Commons that interest will in future be paid on policies after the date of the policyholder until the date of the pay-out, a reform for which I have recently strenuously campaigned.

That is the good news. The bad news is that interest will not start to run until two months after the death of the policyholder, with the result that the industry will continue to withhold about £8 million per annum from beneficiaries.

Times Danaos...

Yours etc,  
PERCY RICHER,  
19 Colchoun Drive,  
Luton, Bedfordshire, MK17 9JH,  
9 Leigham Hall Parade,  
Surrey Heath, Surrey, TW20 9JH,  
December 5.

## Second best

From Mr J. Allan Denholm

Sir, Mr Michael Elwyn's using a credit card (December 14) to divide hard-boiled eggs indicates a singular misuse of the card.

Had he used the card as it was intended - to purchase some cutlery - he could have avoided smudging the signature on the card.

Yours faithfully,  
J. ALLAN DENHOLM,  
Greencroft,  
19 Colchoun Drive,  
Barnet,  
Glasgow,  
December 16.

From Mrs Pamela Jenkins

Sir, Every potter knows that the credit card is the most suitable tool for scraping excess clay from the base of a pot before removing it from the wheel. My husband keeps urging me to use our Portfolio card, as it has been of little value, but is much too flimsy.

Yours sincerely,  
PAMELA JENKINS,  
10 Riselaw Crescent,  
Edinburgh,  
December 14.

From the Director and Chief Executive of Access

Sir, Your correspondence columns have recently suggested one or two interesting ways of deriving extra benefits from the use of a "flexible friend" credit card. Whilst I could not encourage its use as a *pâté spreader*, the proposal put forward (December 9) for its secondary use

## ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 23 1986

A scoop for The Times. Lord Randolph Churchill (1849-95) was Chancellor of the Exchequer in Lord Salisbury's ministry. His proposals to effect Budget economies by cuts in the Services Estimates were not accepted by the Cabinet. On December 29 Lord Randolph called at the paper's offices and saw the Editor, Zucke, giving him permission to publish the news of his resignation.

## THE CHANCELLOR'S DECISION

We have this morning to make the startling announcement that the CHANCELLOR of the Exchequer has placed his resignation in the hands of LORD SALISBURY. The reason assigned for a step grave at all times, and deriving additional gravity from the peculiarities of the existing political situation, is that LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, as the Minister responsible for the national finances, cannot concur in the Estimates put forth by the War Office and the Admiralty. Lord Salisbury, in a point of fact, has been compelled to choose between supporting the Ministers responsible for the defence of the Empire and giving his sanction to the more economical views of national needs advocated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Had LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, proclaimed, with the authority derived from official knowledge and an official position, that both departments must submit to thorough overhauling and reconstruction upon a business footing, even should it mean nothing but praise for his courage and nothing but the best wishes for his success. It is, however, a very different matter when he simply declares that less money must be spent without taking steps to insure the wise spending of what he still allows, and without inquiring what is to be the effect upon our national position and security of withdrawing the expenditure for which the Departments ask.

But in order to justify his resignation upon financial grounds at such a moment as the present, LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL would have to do a great deal more than prove that his financial ideas are sound. Reforms, however important, and economies however legitimate, must always be considered, like everything else in politics, in the light of broad, general principles, and in this instance the term hardly seems to apply) then "collective inertia" is the only way to describe the actions of the Government and the Ministry of Defence in recent times.

A great deal is now being said about the importance of a European solution and the defence interests of this country being compromised if the Sikorsky rescue package goes ahead. Surely there has been ample time to provide the assistance Westland so badly needs without waiting until the last moment to cobble together a rescue plan involving our conjectural European partners.

Westland is a private company, and as such should be allowed to attempt to solve its own problems. We feel that the Sikorsky solution offers more hope for the future and is highly preferable to having no helicopter industry at all.

Yours faithfully,  
G. KNIGHT,  
D. SMITH,  
D. CLEMENTS,  
D. WILLIAMS,  
L. THOMPSON,  
10 St Michael's Avenue,  
Yeovil, Somerset,  
December 19.

as an organ donor card is worthy of further consideration, although there would be many problems in such a service being administered by any organization other than an official body such as the National Health Service.

But to those of your readers exercising their ingenuity, may I advise them that following extensive field trials by 8.3 million users this Christmas, we feel confident that we have now discovered its ultimate role - it's for shopping! Yours faithfully,  
J. M. BLACKBURN,  
Director and Chief Executive,  
Access.  
The Joint Credit Card Company Limited,  
Chartwell House,  
365 Chartwell Square,  
Southend-on-Sea,  
Essex,  
December 12.

From Mr J. Doyle  
Sir, Thinking on recent letters on the ingenuity of readers when faced with absence of knives etc, I fell to wondering if their names had been forwarded to Mrs Thatcher.

Surely it is this fine inventiveness that she most desperately seeks in order to get the country to the forefront again. Yours sincerely,  
J. DOYLE,  
92 Pannley Road,  
Mudford,  
Christchurch,  
Dorset,  
December 15.











Commodification	Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Gross Div price	Div yld %	P/T
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[illegible][illegible]

7,500.00	11.2%	Gordon Kerry	580	-10	12.9	2.5	2.5
21.5%		Claringford Hedge	160	-2	7.98	4.8	4.8
520.00		Granade	210	-1	10.1	4.3	4.3
5,777.00		Granade	6	-1	10.1	4.3	4.3
8,000.00		Heath & Gosselin	8	+	2.56	3.7	12.0
70.5%		Hill Eng	156	+	11.2	8.3	8.3
128.4%		Hill (M)	136	+	6.86	4.4	11.8
55.3%		Hollis	21	+	12.8	8.8	8.8
67.5%		Holmes	265	-17	2.2	0.8	0.8
5,531.00		Hompson Ind	27	-	1.5	0.8	0.8
9,395.00		Hudson	38	-	6.3	3.1	3.1
2,768.00		Hudson	1	-	6.3	3.1	3.1
265.00		Do 8% Cw	149	+	8.00	5.4	5.4
147.2%		Do 5.75% C	94	+	8.7	5.3	5.3
46.2%		Harpagrove	130	+	7.0	5.2	5.2
5,400.00		Harpagrove	1	+	7.0	5.2	5.2

7,518,000	Crusier (Amcor)	790	-3	3.5	1.9
200,000	DND	786	-5	11.8	5.9
30,200	Deutsche Post	155	-5		
34,000	Emulex Corp.	144	+15	10.0	2.5
19,500	Flint Design	300	-5	6.0	2.1
9,380,000	Good Foods	62	+2	4.3	6.8
10,400	Gross Realities	123	-10	7.7	4.0
1,000,000	Lowes Cos.	100	-1	3.05	5.5
75,500	McCormick & Co.	148	+8	2.1	5.5
22,700	Moss of Portland	91	-1	4.9	3.3
40,500	Mortgage Opns	130	-5	4.2	3.3
1,000,000	Office of the Mayor	350	+1		
595,000	Office Paper	31	-1		
30,700	Shenck & Co.	498	+3	12.9	2.8
1,000,000	Stamps	100	-1	2.0	7.2
11,800	Stamps (Amcor)	775	+3	2.1	7.2
11,800	Stamps (Amcor)	775	+3	2.1	7.2

3,727,000	Fly (Planes)	81	+3	5.4	8.8	11
227.95	Research Ceramic	151	+4	9.8	9.5	8
28.35	Heater	106	-5	5.1	4.5	64
2,228,000	Hemlock (L)	98	-6	3.4	5.2	17
17,070	High-Speed Job	90	-1	5.1	5.1	10
46.45	Holite Bros	70	-2	•	•	•
37.75	Hot Lloyd	58	-2	5.4	7.9	8
39.65	Howard Machinery	150	1	8.8	9.3	8
50.95	Howe	3	-1	4.8	5.2	9
298.15	Hudson Bay	112 1/2	-1	50.7	•	•
35.75	Hunting Area	247	-3	5.0	5.0	10
1,242.15	Hunting Group	85	+4	8.6	10.1	16
2,421.15	Huntman Whomper	239	-1	•	•	•
593.35	W&I	115	+2	8.7	5.8	10

PROPERTY		2000		2001	
94.5m	Peace	25	+3	0.2	0.3
25.5m	Abundant Life	72	+1	2.0	2.0
2,916,000	Apex	80	+0	2.0	2.5
70.5m	Salmon Cove	140	+2	2.7	2.6
180.5m	Reaper (CR)	276	+2	17.1	1.6
17.5m	Reaper	2	+0	0.1	0.1

8,333.00	Jennings	178	● -x		
91.50	Johnson	476	● -x	26.0	5.8
177.00	Johnson Matthey	133	● -1	0.7	0.5
25.50	Johnson & PB	24	● -1	..	..
25.50	Johnson	235	● -1	10.4	4.5
7,858.00	Jones & Shipman	14	● -1	..	..
7,387.00	Jordan (Thomas)	133	● -2	9.5	7.1
4,625.00	Kalamazoo	24	● -2	2.8	11.8
28.00	Kalson	287	● -1	1.7	8.7
15,000.00	Kellogg	12	● -1	11.4	1.9
6,520.00	Kelly	108	● -5	..	..
81.70	Kernham (A)	235	● -15	21.4	9.1
7,918.00	Kirchman (H Taylor)	206	● -2	15.7	8.1
8,333.00	Kiss-Szics	123	● ..	7.1	5.8

11.0%	Belmont	157	● -1	1.5	2.0
21.0%	Bell	141	● -1	7.8	5.1
122.5%	Berkson	131	● -1	0.5	0.9
106.8%	Cap & Corbales	220	● -3	0.5	0.9
4,000.0%	Cavett Prop	213	● -3	0.5	0.5
77.0%	Chen	177	● -3	0.5	0.5
87.5%	Cheriffelder	430	● -10	15.7	3.6
18.8%	CALA	846	● -10	28.2%	3.4
7,322.0%	Casco Metals	243	● -10	0.0	2.7
17.0%	Chen	185	● -5	0.0	2.7
6,745.0%	Control Secc	15	● -5	0.5	20.0
44.8%	Country & New	127	● -2	2.3	2.2
11.0%	County "B"	110	● -1	0.5	0.6
113.5%	Cove	105	● -1	0.5	0.6
82.5%	Dagen	205	● -35	16.5	3.7
140.8%	Dean Day	245	● -35	...	...

L - R					
82.9m	LCP	113	● +8	8.8	5.3
1,820,000	LOH	21	● -1	0.5	2.4
86.7m	Lap	253	● +5	6.6	2.7
180.5m	Lard	215	● +8	8.0	3.7
87.2m	Lemont	136	● +9	5.1	3.7
\$40,000	Lewitt	47	● -2	2.1	4.5
13.2m	Leo (Arthur)	42x1	● -5	3.0	7.1
1,561,000	Lewins	23	● -1	2.8	1.1
	Lithograph	71	● +4	2.9	4.0

21.3%	Estates Corp	117	-	3.2	2.9	2.8
80.7%	Exxon	150	-	17.6	7.8	7.8
2,803,000	First Interstate	2	0	1.7	1.7	1.7
60.1%	Five Cities	44	-	-	-	-
60.1%	Progress	178	-	9.9	5.7	5.7
205.2%	GP Portland	158	-	10.0	5.1	5.1
19.5%	YPS	236	-	1.0	1.0	1.0
30.4%	Westwood GP	97	+10	7.9	7.2	7.2
79.1%	Hamcor Corp	475	-	12.1	2.6	2.6
7.11%	QX*	450	-	12.1	2.6	2.6
16.5%	Hammer	146	-	1.0	1.0	1.0
19.1%	Hammaker	543	-7	14.0	5.8	5.8
19.1%	Hammaker	207	-	14.0	2.6	2.6
1,500,000	Ivey	250	-	7.5	2.6	2.6
17.1%	Design	10	-	1.5	1.5	1.5
	Luby Prop	806	+3	9.8	3.2	3.2

6,750,000	Leucker (T)	229	+	-1	1.8	7.3
48.0m	Lon Midland	103	+	1	14.2	7.1
2,828,000	Do	58	+	0		
83.5m	Lon & Wain	168	+	7.4m	12.7	5
204.3m	Loe Inc	103	+	-1	5.9	3.6
2,535,000	Longport Inc	136	-5	4.5	3.2	10
10.0m	Lois & Bonar	208	+	32.8	10.8	10
18.0m	Algo	263	+	11.2m	3.4	10
17.2m	MSI Inc	72	+	+13	6.1	0.2
5,915,000	MY Dart	34	+	+12	1.2	3.4
30.3m	Masterworks Pharms	265	+	+1	12.2	6.1
30.3m	Masterworks Pharms	121	+	0	1.2	1.6
3,795,000	Maxidation (P&W)	42	+	+2	2.6	6.9
112.1m	McGraw-Hill	288	+	+	11.4	6.1
4,700,000	Medco	65	+	-3	1.2	1.3
29.1m	Mediquest Shio	103	+	-5	7.9	1.9

50.9%	Lon & Edco Inc.	450	+ -10	9.8	2.1
21.9%	Lon & Edco 6.9%	192	-8	2.3	2.1
19.4%	Lon & Edco 6.9%	233	-	6.6	2.3
75.4%	Lon Shop Corp.	71	+1	7.1	4.6
37.4%	Lynco	303	-	8.9	2.9
89.8%	MEPC	28	+4	15.0	5.2
11.8%	Mick	66	+2	-	-
84.3%	Mickey Sea	116	-	4.8	4.3
16.2%	Marlbank	35	-	3.7	5.3
16.8%	Marborough	84	-1	0.8	1.3
9,437,000	Master Set	179	-	4.3	2.5
18.8%	Max	592	-3%	4.3	2.5
15.0%	Mountain	370	+9	8.4	1.7
4,433,000	Mountain (A.S.)	86	-2	7.2	8.4
5.0%	Mountain	229	-	15.7	0.8
60.0%	Page Overleaf	17	-	-	-

13.1m	Marshall	88	-3	2.3	27	10.
864.0m	Marshall (London)	72	-	4.3	8.0	11.
3,091.1m	De W*	75	-	4.3	8.1	8.
12.2m	Marshall Univ	68	-	2.5	2.2	12.
46.2m	Marston	363	-5	15.7	4.5	7.
381.5m	Metel Box	518	-7	54.8	8.4	7.
14.2m	Metel Business	148	-	5	6	6.
20.4m	Mexico	63	-	3.4b	5.4	11.
17.2m	Michael Coster	67	-4	6.1	9.0	8.
81.2m	Michael Coster	87	-1	5.0	8.8	13.
11.5m	Michael Coster	120	-	1.4	1.4	13.
144.5m	Morgan Crucible	267	-46	12.1	6.8	12.
21.2m	Moss (Robert)	123	-1	4.4	4.1	12.
2,795.0m	Ngasend	284	-	0.1	0.7	16.
13.2m	Norfolk	130	09	1.9	1.9	10.
40.5m	Newman Tenis	32	-1	7.7b	9.4	8.

50.5%	Prop & Ferry	778	● +2	4.2	3.3	3
52.5%	Prop Hdgts	1191	+4	3.6	3.2	3
53.5%	Prop Society	1730	+5	4.5	3.6	3
\$374,000	Prop Socy	375	●	5.5	3.5	3
41.5%	Population	2120	●	5.2	1.5	3
141.5%	Powerplant	2655	● -10			
145.5%	Plants & Tomatoes	3872	● -5			
155.5%	Plants	181	● -2	11.2	4.1	1
80.5%	Steel Mill	93	● -3	5.7	6.9	1
205.7%	Search Engines	147	● -4	7.4	5.1	1
205.7%	Spay/Scam	156	● -7	13.6	4.8	1
17.5%	Search	636	●	12.1	2.3	2
274.5%	Search Connections	636	-6			
155.5%	Searchers	66	● -1	14	3.2	2
155.5%	Search	260	● -1	16.5	3.1	2
22.1%	Search	260	● -1	16.5	3.1	2

12.7m	Office Sec Mach	258		11.4	5.5	11.1
12.7m	Porter Knoll W	208	● -5	12.0	5.5	11.1
12.7m	Porter Knoll W	213	● -5	12.0	5.5	11.1
1,828,000	Perkins JT	540	-15	13.0	3.4	14.4
502.3m	Peterson	490	-13	13.0	3.4	14.4
884,000	Pfeiffer	8	-1	8.0	8.0	8.0
11.0m	Pfister	326	● -8	21.4	6.8	9.1
59.5m	Porter-Hatfield	111	● -8	21.4	6.8	9.1
125.5m	Petland Ind	270	-10	1.5	0.6	2.5
27.2m	Peterson	692	-13	8.5	8.5	8.5
41.5m	Pro-Logo	57	● +100	8.0	8.0	21.4
877,000	Prattburg	318	-11	12.9	5.5	7.7
2,651,000	Plastic Center	51	● -1	3.5	7.5	11.1
155.5m	Pro-Logo	25	● -15	21.4	6.8	9.1
12.2m	Porter Chatham	258	-7	1.2	0.5	1.2
160.5m	Power Distributors	254	● -10	21.7	6.3	12.1

48.95	Warford	485	+6	21.4	4.4
4,692,000	Webb (Jag)	174		9.7	4.2
4,716,000	West & Country	142	-1	11.4	8.0

SHIPPING					
157.7%	Amoco Br Ports	380	-8	12.5	3.2
291.1%	Br Commonwealth	300	0	9.1	2.1
235.1%	Outboards	301	7	6.1	2.1
22.6%	Fisher (Jag)	95	4	4.7	5.0
9,848,000	Geary	608	-5	17.9	3.0
15.1%	Shoepke Lm	57		1.0	1.0

[illegible]

207.2m	Ocean Transport	178	-31	6.4	4.8	1.2
1,521.3m	P & O Ltd	-116	-7	20.0	4.8	1.7
8,251.0m	Rockham (Sydney)	370	+2	7.1	8.2	3.9
1,685.0m	Turnhill Sails	100	-	12.9	3.5	2.8

## SHOES AND LEATHER

14.8m	Pt	282	+5	8.9	3.3	1.0
12.5m	Garner Boot	185	-	13.1	8.1	4.4
1,350.0m	Handmade Shoes	34	-1	3.1	8.8	7.7
11.7m	Leather Hosiery	248	-1	2.2	3.5	1.0
5,869.0m	Newells & Burton	86	-	-	-	-

\$ 1,161,000	Robinson (Thomas)	134	-	3.7	2.1	18.9
\$ 511,000	Rogers	36	+1	.	.	13.6
\$ 226,000	Rosner	129	• • •	5.3	7.4	7.4
15.7M	Sco 'A'	134	• • •	5.3	7.4	7.4
\$61,000	Seppert	1	-	.	.	2.7
32.5w	Storck	127	-7	8.9	5.7	10.7
30.0w	Tumult (A)	80	+2	2.0	2.2	50.3w

12.1m	Style	1993	92	1992	82	83
44.4m	Alfred Tux	406	● -5	17.26	4.4	16
6,036,000	Antony Brax	143	● +18	8.1	8.7	8.8
4,370,000	Bassini (Lund)	108	-1	8.1	8.7	8.8
6,167,000	Stratton (A)	90	●	8.2	8.2	8.1
74.5m	St. Michael	129	● -5	8.6	8.7	8.6
8,462,000	Switzer & Lamb	65	● -1	7.1	11.3	11.3

32.5m	Salt Tilley	218	● -4	7.0	3.5	13.4
12.5m	Senguloglu	87	● -1	1.7	2.8	17.9
11.5m	Savits Gordan [1]	49	● -1	3.2	4.8	19.0
22.5m	Schmitt	181	● -1	18.1	18.1	18.1
22.5m	Scott Greenwood	110	● -1	4.3	3.9	16.3
23.4m	Scott Portable	718	● -1	4.0	3.8	11.2
1,053.0m	Repp & Robertson	95	● -1	3.6	3.1	12.1
5,762.0m	Repp & Robertson	11	● -1	1.7	2.4	17.7
86.0m	Do 'A'	142	● -1	1.9	1.3	22.7
144.1m	Security Serv	147	● -3	3.3	2.2	26.5
27.7m	Senior Eng	88	● -4	2.8	8.1	11.5
2,166.0m	Shish	178	● -3	12.2	5.2	5.3
30.3m	Shish	28	● -4	4.6	2.6	12.6
225.6m	Shue	654	● +5	17.5	2.8	17.2
15.2m	Shwright	35	● -1	0.9	11.2	1.4

752.100	Coriander	180	0	0	7.8	4.1
752.100	Coriander (4)	79	0	0	2.1	2.7
257.100	Daikon	210	0	0	8.0	3.8
8.855.000	Dalchini	22	0	0		
4,772.000	Onion (2)	430	0	0	2.3	4.6
77.000	Onion (3)	22	0	0	4.3	8.3
1,440.000	Born chili	80	0	0	2.7	11.4
67,133.000	Pepper (1) (2)	77	0	0	7.8	7.8
4,954.000	Ground Broadbean	103	0	0		
5,554.000	Pepper (1) (3)	145	0	0	6.8	7.8
5,300.000	Pepper (1) (4)	105	0	0	6.8	7.8
2,785.000	Pepper (1) (5)	85	0	0	6.8	7.8
12.000	Leaves	179	0	0	6.8	7.8
102.000	Leaf	85	0	0	6.8	7.8
3,004.000	Leaf (2)	85	0	0	6.8	7.8
2,922.000	Leaf (3)	85	0	0	6.8	7.8
2,922.000	Leaf (4)	85	0	0	6.8	7.8

97.1m	Stanchion	346			
206.2m	SVP-1	229			
221.2m	Sea & Raytheon	229			
222.0m	South 1020000	30			
403.0m	South 110	20			
7.260.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
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14.0m	Sea & Raytheon	229			
7.007.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
107.2m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
4.000.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
6.407.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
5.205.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
3.124.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
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6.407.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
5.205.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
3.124.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
97.1m	Stanchion	346			
206.2m	SVP-1	229			
221.2m	Sea & Raytheon	229			
222.0m	South 1020000	30			
403.0m	South 110	20			
7.260.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
7.260.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
14.0m	Sea & Raytheon	229			
7.007.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
107.2m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
4.000.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
6.407.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
5.205.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
3.124.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
97.1m	Stanchion	346			
206.2m	SVP-1	229			
221.2m	Sea & Raytheon	229			
222.0m	South 1020000	30			
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7.260.0m	Scanner (Horn)	126			
14.0m	Sea & Raytheon</				

6,018,000	SEET	50	0	7.1	0
5,922,000	SEB	450	0	7.0	4.7
5,922,000	Star Capote	37	0	7.0	11.1
5,922,000	Star	138	0	6.9	4.3
1,775,000	Starbuck (P)	47	0	6.8	7.5
1,775,000	Starbuck	8	0	6.8	7.5
2,500,000	Starbuck Jersey	103	0	6.7	12.7
2,500,000	Starbuck	173	0	6.7	7.1
1,058,000	Tobacco	72	-10	6.5	9.0
5,790,000	Tobacco	298	-1	6.5	7.5
	Tobacco			6.3	4.5

**TOBACCO**

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7.50x20	per 100	398	411	13.7	5.1	4
7.50x22	per 100	398	411	13.7	5.1	4
317.25	per 100	398	411	13.7	5.1	4

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## PERSONAL COLUMNS

Trade 01-837 2104 and 01-278 9232 Private 01-837 3333 or 3311

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THE BEST AND WE CAN PROVE IT.

160,000 clients since 1970

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## FOR SALE

## CARPETS FOR CHRISTMAS

Any new carpet ordered now fit

to your home or office before

Christmas. Free estimates. Free

main valuations. Free

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## RENTALS

Trade 01-837 0645. Private 01-837 3333 or 3311

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from us all

HEAD OFFICE -

ST JOHN'S WOOD

01-721 7101

KINGSTON

01-225 1172

KINGSTON

01-721 7227

KINGSTON

01-721 7227

KINGSTON







